CITY HILIGHTS

The Truth Speaks

MONDAY ▸ MAY 11, 2026 ▸ VOL: 11 ▸ ISSUE: 296 ▸ PAGES 12 ▸ ₹2.00

IBC WORLD NEWS
CH ABC
Certified English Daily

Magyar sworn in as Hungary's PM P8

₹20,000 cr mission launched for nuclear energy push P9

Sooryavanshi creates history with fastest 100 T20 sixes milestone P12

www.ibcworldnews.com | BENGALURU ▸ HUBBALLI ▸ MANGALURU ▸ MYSURU ▸ KALABURAGI | cityhilights.news@gmail.com

Thalapathy era begins in TN

"I do not hail from any royal lineage, I am like you, like your son, your brother. This is your regime," the new CM tells supporters after taking oath; Udhayanidhi Stalin chosen LoP in TN assembly

CHENNAI

After four days of intense political uncertainty, the state has finally got a government. Heralding a new chapter in Tamil Nadu political landscape, TVK president Chandrasekar Joseph Vijay assumed office as the Chief Minister of the state on Sunday.

He made history as the first chief minister of the state since 1967 who does not come from either of the two Dravidian majors (DMK or AIADMK).

Among those present at the swearing-in ceremony were Rahul Gandhi, Vijay's parents SA Chandrasekhar and Shoba Chandrasekhar, and several personalities from the Tamil film industry, including Trisha Krishnan, who attended the event at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium. Vijay could form the government after securing support from Congress, CPI, CPI(M), VCK and IUML.

Vijay signs off on 200 units of free power in first major act

Soon after taking over the reins of the government, Vijay cleared key files relating to free electricity supply (up to 200 units), the creation of a women's protection force, and anti-drug squads in every district. He also promised the people of the state a clean and transparent government.

Vijay also effected a key bureaucratic reshuffle, appointing IAS officers Dr P Senthilkumar and G Laxmi Priya as the Chief Secretaries to the Chief Minister.

In his maiden speech, CM Vijay appealed to the people to give him some time to fulfil his electoral promises. "You have placed such a big responsibility on my hands. At the same time, I request you to give me some time as well. In a step-by-step manner, I will try to fulfill everything that I have assured. I will fulfill my assurances. At the same time, if you give me some time, it will be helpful and cooperative for me. This is your regime," he said.

Referring to the state's huge debt burden of around Rs 10 lakh crore, he promised a white paper on the finances. "I want to take it forward from there," he said.

He assured that he would be transparent and open. "As I have said before, I will not touch even a single paisa from the people's money. It is not necessary for me either and you know that very well. I will not err, and I will not allow my Council of Ministers to err.

If anyone has thoughts of indulging in such practices now that we have won, please erase them from your minds," he warned.

> This is a new beginning, a new era of real, secular social justice starts now.
> —C Joseph Vijay, TN CM

'I will be the only power centre'

TN CM C Joseph Vijay on Sunday said he will be the sole "power centre" in his led government, and sought to identify himself as a commoner from humble origins. Vijay said he was well aware about poverty and hunger as he was born as the son of an ordinary assistant film director who aspired to win in cinema by working hard. In his maiden speech, he said, "There is only one centre here, the centre under my leadership. A centre on this side, a power center on that side, another power center there - none of that exists, I'm telling you right now," he said.

NEW TN CABINET

CHIEF MINISTER
- C Joseph Vijay

MINISTERS
- N Anand
- Aadhav Arjuna
- KA Sengottaiyan
- P Venkataramanan
- R Nirmalkumar
- Rajmohan
- TK Prabhu
- KG Anuraj
- S Keerthana

Youngest minister

S Keerthana is among the nine ministers inducted into the newly-formed cabinet. Keerthana (29), an iMLA from Sivakasi and a postgraduate, is the youngest member of the cabinet. She won the Sivakasi seat by a margin of 11,697 votes.

Minister D Sudhakar dies, tributes pour in

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Planning and Statistics Minister D Sudhakar passed away early in the morning on Sunday due to multiple organ dysfunction at a private hospital in Bengaluru. He was 66.

A senior Congress leader and MLA from Hiriyur in Chitradurga district, Sudhakar was widely regarded as a grassroots politician known for his concern for farmers, backward communities and the poor.

His demise triggered widespread grief across Karnataka, with political leaders cutting across party lines paying rich tributes to the departed leader.

After paying his last respects to the minister at his Sadashivanagar residence, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah described his passing as a huge loss to Karnataka politics. "Sudhakar was a person with immense concern and commitment towards public service. Such a person should have remained among the people for many more years. Despite the continuous efforts of doctors and the prayers of all of us, Sudhakar has left us today. This is an extremely painful moment," Siddaramaiah wrote in an 'X' post.

Deputy CM DK Shivakumar termed the death a personal and political loss.

Karnataka Government's Special Representative in Delhi TB Jayachandra called Sudhakar's demise an irreparable loss to both the Congress and the state government, remembering him as a generous philanthropist and a "friend of the poor."

POLITICAL JOURNEY

- **2004:** Sudhakar formally entered electoral politics, winning from Challakere Assembly constituency.
- **2008:** When Challakere became a reserved seat, he successfully won as an independent from Hiriyur and joint Yediyurappa cabinet as a minister.
- **2013:** He returned to Congress, contested again from Hiriyur and emerged victorious.
- **2018:** He lost the Assembly election to BJP's Poornima.
- **2023:** He won on Cong ticket from Hiriyur and became Planning and Statistics minister in Siddaramaiah cabinet.

Last rites and more

- Sudhakar died in Bengaluru after prolonged illness
- His last rites will be held in Challakere with full state honours on Monday evening.
- Govt declares three-day mourning across state and a public holiday for Chitradurga district on Monday.

Yogi cabinet gets 6 new faces

LUCKNOW

Six new ministers were inducted in the much awaited expansion of the Yogi Adityanath cabinet on Sunday taking the number of ministers in the state to 60.

The new faces included Samajwadi Party (SP) rebel Manoj Pandey, Bhupendra Choudhary, Krishna Paswan, Hansraj Vishwakarma, Surendra Singh Diler and Kailash Rajput. Two ministers of state Ajeet Pal and Somendra Tomar were promoted and given independent charge of their departments.

The new ministers were administered oath of office and secrecy at the Rajbhavan by the state governor Anandiben Patel.

The choice of the newly inducted ministers, clearly revealed that the BJP had sought to set the caste and regional equations right before the next assembly polls which were due in 2027.

Himanta's 2nd term as Assam CM from May 12

GUWAHATI

Assam Chief Minister-designate Himanta Biswa Sarma will be sworn in on May 12 in the presence of leaders, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah.

Sarma was on Sunday unanimously elected as the leader of BJP Legislature Party as well as NDA Legislature Party, clearing the decks for his second straight term as the Chief Minister.

Later on the day, Sarma was accompanied by the leaders of the NDA parties – BJP, Asom Gana Parishad (AGP) and Bodoland People's Front (BPF) – met Governor Lakshman Prasad Acharya at the Lok Bhavan and staked a claim to form the next government after submitting a list of the elected members supporting the NDA.

"Governor Lakshman Prasad Acharya invited Dr Himanta Biswa Sarma to form the new government in Assam. The Governor will administer the oath of office and secrecy to Sarma as Chief Minister and to the members of the Council of Ministers," according to an official statement.

Society more powerful than govt: Modi

BENGALURU

The Art of Living International Center witnessed a historic gathering on Sunday as the Prime Minister Narendra Modi joined Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar to celebrate 45 years of The Art of Living movement and the 70th birthday of its founder.

The Prime Minister also inaugurated the magnificent Dhyan Mandir, a unique high-vibration meditation space representing one of the world's largest meditation communities. The dedicated center will allow lakhs of seekers from across countries, cultures and backgrounds to experience deep inner stillness through collective meditation and chanting.

Referring to the newly-inaugurated meditation space, Dhyan Mandir, PM Modi said, "I am confident that the Dhyan Mandir that has been inaugurated today will become a center of peace and solace for thousands of people in the coming generations."

PM Modi paid rich tribute to Gurudev, describing him as "a living embodiment of India's timeless tradition of giving, giving knowledge, giving peace, giving hope."

Addressing a gathering of volunteers and followers at the Vishalakshi Mantap, he recalled that whenever he had visited the International Center earlier, he had experienced "the same energy of seva that the Rishis once carried into the world." Highlighting the importance of people's participation in nation-building, he said, "I am confident that society is more powerful than politics and governments. And any government can be successful only when the society is actively participating in the creation of the nation."

SRI SRI LAUDS MODI'S LEADERSHIP, VISION FOR INDIA

Welcoming the Prime Minister, Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar spoke warmly about the transformation India has witnessed in recent years and the spirit of confidence that has emerged across the nation. "You have taken steps towards bringing peace in the country and abroad. Today, Mother India and the people of India walk with pride because you have taken India to a new level," Gurudev said. Referring to national transformation and public participation, Gurudev added, "As soon as you came, you proclaimed 'Clean India'. Today, the country feels cleaner, more beautiful, more secure, and filled with a renewed sense of confidence." Speaking about India's growing global standing, Gurudev remarked, "Earlier, people abroad would say India could never rise like this. You proved them all wrong." "In less than ten years, you transformed India from a country that asks, into a country that gives," Gurudev added.

> In less than ten years, you transformed India from a country that asks, into a country that gives.
> Gurudev
> Sri Sri Ravi Shankar

2 gelatin sticks found near PM Modi's venue in B'luru

Two gelatin sticks were recovered from a roadside near Prime Minister Narendra Modi's venue on the outskirts of Bengaluru, prompting heightened security measures and a police investigation into the source of the explosives.

Police said the gelatin sticks were found during routine security checks near Tataguni in Kaggalipura police station limits, not far from a route linked to the Prime Minister's movement schedule. Modi was in Bengaluru and had gone to Art of Living Centre on Kanakapura Road near Kaggalipura to commemorate its 45th foundation day. "On Sunday morning, before the PM's arrival, during the checking, two gelatine sticks were found on the side of a footpath, nearly three kilometres away from the main venue where PM Modi was scheduled to arrive. Further investigation is on," a police statement said.

Modi: Cong known for betraying people

BENGALURU

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday hailed the BJP's electoral gains across the country, saying the party's rise reflected people's trust in "nationalistic politics" and development-oriented governance, while attacking the Congress for its declining political fortunes.

Addressing BJP workers in Bengaluru, Modi said the National Democratic Alliance's return to power in Puducherry and Assam, along with the BJP's breakthrough performance in West Bengal, marked a major political shift in the country.

"I have arrived in Bengaluru today at a time when discussions regarding election results are underway across the country. The formation of an NDA government in Puducherry for the second consecutive time, the formation of an NDA government in Assam for the third consecutive time, and in Bengal, the BJP receiving such a massive mandate for the very first time," Modi said.

CM chair 'stable': DKS amid Modi's criticism of K'taka Cong

RAICHUR

Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar on Sunday refuted Prime Minister Narendra Modi's remark on internal power struggles in Karnataka saying, 'all chairs are stable.'

Modi's remark comes amid the ongoing 'power tussle' in the state with ministers reportedly visiting Delhi to meet the Congress high command on this matter, where the prime minister claimed that the CM's chair in Karnataka was "wobbling."

Addressing the media at Lingasagur, Raichur, Shivakumar, who is also the KPCC president, retorted to his claim stating, "No chairs are wobbling in Karnataka. All chairs are stable. I don't know what the PM is referring to."

Madras HC grills ECI over postal ballot mix-up in TN seat

CHENNAI

The Madras High Court on Sunday questioned the Election Commission of India (ECI) over complaints that a postal ballot meant for Tirupattur Assembly constituency in Sivaganga district was mistakenly sent to Tirupattur constituency in Tirupattur district -- a seat where DMK leader and state minister K R Periyakaruppan lost by one vote -- and directed the ECI to file an affidavit on the issue on Monday.

Notably, Periyakaruppan, who polled 83,364 votes against TVK's R Sreenivasa Sethupathi's 83,365 in the recently concluded Tamil Nadu Assembly elections, has sought a recount and an interim injunction restraining the TVK MLA-elect from taking oath and participating in Assembly proceedings.

During a special Sunday sitting, a vacation bench comprising justices L Victoria Gowri and N Senthilkumar also grilled the ECI over what it termed an evasive response to the issue. "What you say is ECI cannot open the issue because we have become functus officio. Therefore, it is a matter of election petition," the bench noted.

Put aside differences and strengthen party, Nikhil tells JDS workers

JDS leaders and workers were urged to unite, strengthen organisation, and prepare electorally.

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Nikhil Kumaraswamy, State president of the youth wing of Janata Dal (Secular), called upon party leaders and workers to set aside personal differences and work unitedly to strengthen the organisation, asserting that the JDS would return to power in Karnataka in the coming years.

He was addressing party workers at a convention organised at Bhagat Singh Stadium in Bengaluru as part of the silver jubilee celebrations of the JDS under the theme "Janata Dal with the People – Strong Janata Dal, Prosperous Karnataka."

Nikhil said party workers should be empowered in the upcoming panchayat and local body elections and urged leaders to end internal rivalries immediately. He said people who questioned the relevance and strength of the JDS would receive a fitting response through the party's organisational growth and electoral performance.

According to him, workers were fully prepared to rebuild the party's presence across the state, and there was no need for leaders to worry about the party's position in individual constituencies. "Time will decide everything," he remarked.

Referring to recent election outcomes in southern states, Nikhil said the youth had demonstrated their ability to elect capable leaders and governments. He appealed to party workers to support Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of a "Developed India" and stressed the need to bring youth leadership into mainstream politics.Targeting the ruling Indian National Congress government in Karnataka, he accused it of merely pretending to support backward communities while failing to utilise funds allocated for their welfare. He alleged that grants earmarked for backward class development corporations had remained unspent during the Congress government's tenure.

Nikhil further claimed that funds meant for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes were being diverted towards guarantee schemes. He said merely providing financial assistance under schemes like Gruhalakshmi would not ensure women's empowerment and insisted women should receive their rightful constitutional benefits.

Expressing concern over unemployment among educated youth, he alleged that job fairs organised by the government were only symbolic exercises without meaningful employment opportunities. He urged party workers to highlight the achievements of the Centre and expose the failures of the state government before the people.

QUICK READ

Jewellery shop owner arrested for cheating woman

CH NEWS BENGALURU
Kodigehalli Police arrested a jewellery shop owner for allegedly cheating a woman by promising to arrange a gold loan at a low interest rate. The accused, identified as Narasimha Murthy, owner of Raghavendra Jewellery Shop, was arrested following a complaint filed by Suvarnalatha, a resident of Allalasandra GKVK Nagar who runs a spa and salon. Police said the accused had allegedly convinced the woman to pledge her gold through a Souharda Cooperative Bank in Chikkabanavar at lower interest rates. Trusting him, she reportedly redeemed gold pledged elsewhere and handed it over to him. Later, Murthy allegedly failed to return the gold, prompting the woman to file a police complaint.

BDA to auction 75 residential and commercial plots

CH NEWSBENGALURU
Bangalore Development Authority has announced an e-auction for 75 residential and commercial plots located in major layouts across Bengaluru. According to officials, the auction process will commence on May 11.
Some of the sites were reportedly recovered from encroachers, while others were reclaimed through court proceedings.
The plots are situated in prominent areas including Anjanapura Township, Arkavati Layout, Banashankari 6th Phase, Kempegowda Layout and Sir M Visvesvaraya Layout. Interested buyers can register for the auction until May 22. The direct auction will be conducted in phases on May 25 and 26. Officials said the base price .

CITU to stage protest against labour codes implementation

CH NEWS BENGALURU
Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU) has called for a protest on May 12 opposing the Central government's implementation of four labour codes, which the organisation described as anti-worker policies.
CITU leaders alleged that the Union government issued the final notification for implementing the labour codes on November 21 last year despite objections, protests and strikes by trade unions across the country.CITU President Meenakshi Sundaram and General Secretary S. Varalakshmi said trade unions had submitted several objections, but the final rules were announced without considering their concerns.

HC reduces jail term of elderly road accident convict to one day

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

The Karnataka High Court has reduced the prison sentence of a 71-year-old man convicted in a fatal road accident case from one year to a single day of simple imprisonment, taking into account his serious health condition and physical disability.

The order was passed by a bench headed by Justice V. Srishananda while hearing a petition filed by Saifuddin, a resident of Bannimantap in Mysuru, challenging the sentence imposed by the trial court.

During the hearing, the court observed that the petitioner had appeared before the bench in a wheelchair and was dependent on others for his daily activities. Considering his deteriorating health condition, the court said sending him to prison for a prolonged period would serve little purpose.

Soaring LPG prices push Bengaluru MSMEs into heavy losses, industry bodies seek relief

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) across Bengaluru are grappling with rising operational costs following a steep increase in commercial LPG prices over the past few months. Industry representatives said the sharp hikes have pushed many units into losses ranging between 20 and 30 percent, particularly those heavily dependent on LPG for manufacturing and production activities.

Engineering units, welding workshops, paint factories, battery manufacturers and barrel-making industries in and around Bengaluru have been among the worst affected. Industrialists said LPG prices per metric tonne rose nearly 50 percent between March and May, severely affecting businesses operating under fixed annual contracts.

According to manufacturers, the latest hike of ₹991 has pushed the price of a 19-kg commercial LPG cylinder to ₹3,153. However, due to supply shortages, several private suppliers in the open market are reportedly charging as much as ₹4,500 per cylinder.

S. Shanmugam, a barrel manufacturer, said industries were struggling to cope with the sudden increase. "Before March, LPG prices were around ₹75,000 per metric tonne. In April, they rose to ₹1.48 lakh and have now touched nearly ₹1.68 lakh in May. Since many industries operate on long-term contracts, we are unable to revise prices immediately and are forced to absorb the losses," he explained.

D.P. Narendran, President of the Peenya Industries Association, said a large section of industries directly or indirectly depended on LPG-based operations. He alleged that inadequate supply had worsened the crisis and reiterated the demand for a separate industrial LPG quota.

Meanwhile, the Federation of Karnataka Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FKCCI) has written to the Centre seeking urgent intervention and relief measures for MSMEs.FKCCI President Uma Reddy said the sudden increase in LPG prices had nearly doubled production costs for several engineering industries overnight. She warned that the impact was already visible in sectors such as hospitality, where food prices had begun to rise.

Industry bodies have sought relief measures similar to those provided during the Covid-19 pandemic, including guaranteed credit support, deferment of EMIs and GST payments for six months without penalties, and extension of repayment periods.

Case filed against IIMB professor's wife over alleged assault of Manipur woman

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

A case has been registered at Mico Layout Police Station against the wife of an Indian Institute of Management Bangalore (IIMB) professor for allegedly assaulting and wrongfully confining a woman from Manipur employed as a domestic worker.

Police said the case was registered based on a complaint filed by 23-year-old Nian Phounuwan, a member of the Kuki community. The complaint accused Anshu, wife of IIMB professor Amar, of physical assault and harassment.

According to the complaint, the woman had been working as a housekeeper at the professor's residence on the IIMB campus in Bilekahalli since 2021. She alleged that she was not provided proper food from the beginning of her employment and was subjected to physical abuse whenever she fell ill.

The complainant further alleged that her mobile phone had been taken away and that she was assaulted by Anshu on April 15. She also claimed that she was confined inside the house and prevented from stepping out.

In her statement to police, the woman said that on May 4 she was forced to seek food from a neighbour because she had not been given anything to eat since morning. She reportedly used the neighbour's phone to contact her relatives living in Bengaluru and informed members of a Kuki student organisation about her situation.

Based on the complaint, police registered a case against Anshu under Sections 115(2) relating to voluntarily causing hurt and 127(4) pertaining to wrongful confinement under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS).

Police officials confirmed that an investigation has been launched and statements are being recorded as part of the inquiry. Authorities said further action would be taken based on the findings of the investigation.

The incident has drawn attention from members of the northeastern community in Bengaluru, with several groups reportedly seeking a fair investigation into the allegations.

GBA intensifies drive against dangerous compound walls after Bowring Hospital tragedy

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

The Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) has intensified its citywide crackdown on unsafe and damaged compound walls following the recent wall collapse near Bowring Hospital that claimed seven lives.

As part of the ongoing safety drive, civic officials on Sunday demolished a dangerously weakened compound wall in the KR Puram area of East Bengaluru. The structure, located near Lakshminarayana Bhavana on Chikkabasavanapura Main Road in Bhattarahalli, was reportedly on the verge of collapse and posed a major risk to residents and commuters.

Officials said the damaged wall near the 5th Cross area had become structurally unsafe and was removed by Bengaluru East City Municipal authorities as a precautionary measure to avoid another tragedy.

The intensified inspections began after the fatal Bowring Hospital incident, which raised serious concerns over the condition of ageing compound walls across Bengaluru, especially during heavy rain and strong winds.

Ejipura flyover misses another deadline as commuters continue facing severe traffic woes

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Bengaluru's long-delayed Ejipura-Kendriya Sadan flyover project has once again missed its completion deadline, with civic authorities now indicating that the 2.4-km elevated corridor is likely to be opened for traffic only by the end of October this year.

The flyover, considered one of the city's most delayed infrastructure projects, has continued to inconvenience thousands of commuters travelling through the busy southeast Bengaluru corridors connecting Ejipura, Koramangala and surrounding areas.

Authorities had earlier stated that the project would be completed by June 2026. After failing to meet that target, the deadline was revised to September. However, pending construction work and unresolved bottlenecks have now forced another extension.

Officials said one of the major reasons for the prolonged delay was a land-related issue near St. John's Medical College Hospital. Permissions required for the construction of a crucial portal framework in the area had reportedly remained pending for several years.

According to authorities, the issue was finally resolved in February after the hospital administration granted the necessary clearance, allowing work on the critical section to resume. Engineers involved in the project said the portal structure was essential for linking major portions of the flyover.

Officials claimed that construction activities accelerated considerably after the clearance was secured and that the remaining work was now progressing at a faster pace.

The flyover project was originally awarded in 2017 to Simplex Infrastructure Limited at an estimated cost of ₹203.2 crore. However, officials said the contractor completed only 42.8 percent of the work over nearly four-and-a-half years.

Authorities cited inadequate machinery deployment, delays in execution and failure to clear payments to subcontractors as major reasons for the stalled progress. Construction eventually came to a complete halt, triggering widespread criticism from residents and commuters.

Following prolonged delays, the Karnataka High Court intervened in the matter, after which the original contract was terminated in March 2022.The remaining work was later awarded to BSCPL Infrastructure Limited in November 2023. Civic officials believe the change of contractor helped revive the stalled project and improve the pace of construction.

Meanwhile, authorities are also undertaking land acquisition and transfer procedures involving nearly 5,998 square metres.

KSLSA and Dhare Foundation launch mission to plant two crore saplings around Bengaluru

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

The Karnataka State Legal Services Authority (KSLSA), in association with Dhare Foundation, has launched an ambitious environmental initiative to plant two crore saplings around Bengaluru in an effort to create a massive "green ring" around the city.

The project aims to develop a green buffer zone across a 50-km radius surrounding Bengaluru to combat rising temperatures, pollution and the loss of green cover caused by rapid urbanisation.

KSLSA Executive Chairman Justice N. S. Sanjay Gowda announced the initiative during a high-level meeting and stressed the importance of environmental protection as part of sustainable development and citizens' rights.

Under the initiative, Dhare Foundation will spearhead plantation drives across government land, institutional campuses, highways, lake bunds, parks and community spaces. The campaign will focus on planting native species such as neem, banyan and mango trees to improve biodiversity and ecological balance.

Officials said the initiative aligns with Article 21 of the Constitution, which guarantees the right to a clean and healthy environment. Legal services networks affiliated with the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) will assist in volunteer mobilisation, awareness campaigns and monitoring activities.

To ensure transparency and long-term impact, the saplings will be geo-tagged and regularly monitored through survival audits. The organisations involved said the project would include a three-year maintenance plan to improve survival rates of the planted trees.

Environmental experts associated with the initiative believe the green corridor could help reduce Bengaluru's average temperature by 2 to 4 degrees Celsius while also improving groundwater recharge and reducing urban flooding risks.

The project will also involve schools, colleges, resident welfare groups and corporate organisations through public participation and CSR funding support. Awareness camps highlighting the connection between environmental protection and legal rights are expected to be organised across the city in the coming months.

The large-scale initiative is being viewed as a major step towards restoring Bengaluru's shrinking green cover and transforming the city into a more climate-resilient urban centre.

ENCOURAGING MANGO GROWERS

Mango mela draws huge crowds at Cubbon Park

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

The annual mango mela at Bengaluru's Cubbon Park witnessed massive crowds over the weekend as visitors flocked to the venue to enjoy fresh seasonal mangoes, mango-based delicacies and direct interactions with growers from different parts of Karnataka.

The festival, which began on May 9 and will continue till May 17, has emerged as one of the city's most popular summer attractions. Farmers from districts including Chikkaballapur and Ramanagara have brought a wide variety of mangoes to Bengaluru, allowing consumers to purchase fruits directly from cultivators without the involvement of middlemen.

Among the many varieties available at the mela, Malgova, Mallika and Sendhoora mangoes have attracted particularly strong demand. Visitors were seen buying the fruits in bulk as seasonal demand for premium mangoes continued to rise across the city.

Apart from fresh fruit sales, the mela has also become a major attraction for food lovers due to its range of mango-based snacks and beverages. Stalls selling mango ice cream, mango lassi, fresh mango juice and other desserts remained crowded throughout the day, adding to the festive atmosphere at the venue.Families, children and tourists thronged the mela from early morning, with long queues witnessed at several popular stalls. Many visitors spent time speaking with farmers to learn about cultivation methods, seasonal production and the unique taste profiles of different mango varieties.Organisers said the mela not only promotes Karnataka's mango growers but also helps create direct market.

QUICK READ

Azim Premji University suspends student over Kashmir event row

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Azim Premji University has suspended a student for two years and issued written warnings to two others over a controversy linked to a planned Kashmir discussion that was cancelled after suspected ABVP activists stormed and vandalised the venue. More than 40 students gathered on campus Friday, demanding revocation of suspension. Students criticised constitution of a Special Disciplinary Committee by the university saying they were being held responsible for violence allegedly carried out by outsiders. APU authorities stood by the decision. APU spokesperson said the institution conducted a thorough inquiry after reviewing recommendations and took action against three students.

A new 10.20 km road planned in Bengaluru to ease traffic flow

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

To reduce traffic congestion in Bengaluru, Bangalore Smart Infrastructure Limited (B-SMILE) is planning a 10.20 km road in the buffer zone of Rajakaluve from V-Legacy Road in Hosakerehalli on Mysuru Road to Rajarajeshwari Nagar Arch. Under the project, along with road construction, beautification including footpaths and systematic drainage, planting of ornamental plants around Rajakaluve and lakes will be undertaken. The aim is to ease traffic and improve stormwater management in the area. More than 200 trees will be cleared for the 10.20 km project and any properties or buildings in the implementation zone will be acquired. Officials say project will significantly reduce congestion along Mysuru Road corridor in Bengaluru city.

State records 2 lakh dogbite cases, 25 rabies deaths

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

In the first four months of 2026, Karnataka has recorded more than two lakh dog-bite cases, with 25 rabies-related deaths. The highest number of cases - 13,997 - was reported in Vijayapura, followed by the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) region with 13,412 cases, involving stray and pet dogs. However, Bengaluru Urban reported six rabies deaths, the highest in the state. Ballari and Bagalkot also reported notable fatalities. The state has seen a steady rise over three years. In 2023 2.3 lakh cases 18 deaths; 2024 3.6 lakh 40 deaths; 2025 nearly five lakh 52 deaths.

BWSSB's 'Blue Force' cracks down on illegal connections

BWSSB crackdown across Bengaluru saves water and removes illegal connections citywide drive

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

The Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) has intensified its crackdown on illegal water connections, misuse and bill defaulters across Bengaluru through its special Blue Force operation.

Over the last five months, the large-scale drive has resulted in major revenue generation for the board and significant savings in drinking water supply.

According to official data, BWSSB teams conducted physical inspections at 54,625 buildings across Bengaluru during the operation.

The inspections were carried out in all four zones of the city North, South, East and West Bengaluru.

As part of the enforcement drive, authorities disconnected a total of 11,217 illegal or non-compliant connections.

This included 9,751 drinking water connections and 1,466 sewage connections.

Among all zones, East Bengaluru recorded the highest number of disconnections linked to illegal connections and unpaid water bills.

Officials disconnected 3,151 connections in the East Zone alone.

Meanwhile, South Bengaluru witnessed the highest number of inspections under the operation.

BWSSB officials physically visited and checked 13,908 buildings in the South Zone during the drive.

The special crackdown has also brought major financial gains to the water board.

BWSSB collected nearly ₹50 crore through prorata charges during the operation.

Officials stated that strict action against illegal usage helped prevent large-scale water leakage across city.

The board further said nearly 1,000 million litres of water earlier used illegally is now under billing network.

Because of this, the board generates an additional revenue of nearly ₹5 crore every month.

Officials said the operation also helps conserve around 210 million litres of treated drinking water monthly.

The Blue Force initiative was launched by Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar in November 2025.

At present, 18 dedicated Blue Force teams are functioning across Bengaluru for enforcement and inspections.

Each team consists of four members, including one ex-serviceman, one supervisor and two staff members.

BWSSB said the operation will continue in coming months to curb illegal usage and recover dues.

Officials said inspections targeted both residential apartments and commercial establishments across Bengaluru urban limits.

The drive also focused on identifying meter tampering and unauthorised pipeline extensions in several wards.

BWSSB officials said recovery from defaulters significantly improved during the enforcement period.

Awareness campaigns were also conducted alongside enforcement to educate citizens on legal water usage.

The board reiterated that illegal connections directly affect equitable distribution of drinking water in the city.

Officials warned that stricter action will continue against repeat offenders in upcoming enforcement drives.

BWSSB said Blue Force will remain active to ensure sustainable water management, reduce wastage, improve compliance and strengthen Bengaluru's drinking water supply system overall impact.

Karnataka panel floats 'Wisdom Valley' idea for Bengaluru airport city

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

The Karnataka State Planning Commission has recommended developing "Wisdom Valley" within the Bengaluru Airport City project in Devanahalli, aiming to build a global hub for education, research and innovation near Kempegowda International Airport.

The proposal envisions integrating universities, R&D centres, innovation parks and incubators into a single ecosystem designed to attract global talent and investment.

Officials said the model draws inspiration from global hubs such as Silicon Valley and Research Triangle Park but is tailored for Karnataka's strengths in IT, biotech and aerospace.

The planned zone will include academic campuses, advanced laboratories, residential spaces and sustainable infrastructure, with strong emphasis on green design and public transport connectivity.

The commission said proximity to Kempegowda International Airport and upcoming transport projects, including expressways and high-speed rail, make Devanahalli ideal for such a knowledge district.

The initiative is also expected to ease congestion in central Bengaluru by decentralising institutions and creating satellite zones of growth in the northern region.

It aligns with state plans such as AI City in Bidadi and a proposed second airport, forming part of a Rs 1.5 lakh crore infrastructure push.

Officials said while funding and timelines are yet to be finalised, the commission has urged fast-track approvals to make Karnataka globally competitive in innovation.

If implemented, "Wisdom Valley" is expected to transform Devanahalli into one of India's most significant knowledge and technology-driven urban clusters.

The proposal also suggests partnerships between global universities, Indian institutes and private industry players to accelerate research output and startup incubation.

Planners believe this will create high-skilled employment opportunities and boost Karnataka's position in emerging technologies.

Sustainability has been made a core pillar, with emphasis on water conservation, renewable energy use and low-carbon infrastructure development across the campus.

The Planning Commission has urged the government to prioritise land allocation and policy approvals to ensure swift execution of the project. Once completed, Wisdom Valley is expected to serve as a benchmark for integrated urban innovation districts in India.

The project is being positioned as a long-term growth engine for Bengaluru's northern corridor and a model for future knowledge-driven cities across the country said officials.

Mega job fair draws strong response, 250 candidates placed

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

A mega job fair organised by Sri Durgaparameshwari Education Trust and JS Degree College in Mallathahalli on the outskirts of Bengaluru witnessed a strong response from job seekers and recruiters alike. The event brought together more than 200 companies, including Toyota, Just Dial, Line Cart, Cognizant, ICICI, Cad Max and Med Plus, along with several international firms.

Inaugurating the job fair, JS College founder president Prof Dr Jayaram Shetty said that securing government jobs is increasingly difficult, and such initiatives help students explore private sector opportunities, self-employment options and skill-based careers to improve their livelihoods.

Shivaprasad, Executive Director of Disciples Corporate School, said rising unemployment remains a major concern and praised the initiative for creating a platform connecting employers and aspirants. He said the effort led by JS Degree College management is commendable in addressing joblessness to some extent.

Around 800 candidates registered for the fair, of which 550 attended the interviews. As many as 400 candidates were shortlisted, while 250 were directly selected and offered employment on the spot, according to organisers.

JS Degree College Secretary Nidhish Shetty, Principal Pratibha Kalas, Gautham and Coordinator of Reliance Kaushalya Academy also participated in the event along with members of the management board.

State issues fresh order on internal reservation framework

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

The state government has issued a fresh order implementing an interim arrangement for internal reservation within the 15 percent cap earmarked for Scheduled Castes (SCs) in education and public employment, pending the High Court's final verdict.

The fresh order was issued by the social welfare department after the earlier one on the same matter issued by Department Personnel and Administrative Reforms (DPAR) on April 27 was withdrawn.

In the interim arrangement, 5.25 percent reservation was allocated to left-hand communities under Category-A, 5.25 percent to right-hand communities under Category-B, and 4.5 percent to other touchable SC communities under Category-C.

The order stated that 20 percent of the vacancies and educational seats available under Category C would be reserved for 59 most backward SC communities.

If eligible candidates from these communities were unavailable, the seats and posts would be filled by other eligible aspirants within Category C.

The order stated that in recruitment notifications where fewer than three SC roster points were available, all 101 SC communities would be eligible to compete for the reserved posts.

The govt also instructed the departments concerned to immediately begin the recruitment process to fill 56,432 approved posts.

For implementing the revised quota in recruitment, all departments were directed to follow a 400-point roster system in consultation with the social welfare department.

The govt directed the departments and recruiting authorities to withdraw earlier recruitment notifications issued under previous internal reservation orders and issue revised notifications in accordance with the new arrangement.

However, notifications for recruitments where competitive examinations had already been conducted would not be withdrawn.

The order further directed recruiting authorities to immediately initiate the process to fill 56,432 posts that had already received approval across various departments.

Phone call helps stop minor girl's marriage in Bengaluru

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

A 16-year-old girl in Bengaluru was days away from being married off to a 33-year-old man when a phone call from her boyfriend alerted authorities and stopped the wedding.

The girl's family had quietly arranged her marriage and booked a hall for May 11, despite her being a minor She was reportedly under emotional pressure, as her mother was suffering from kidney failure and undergoing dialysis, leading to expectations that she agree to the alliance.

She shared details of the arrangement with her boyfriend, who immediately contacted a pro-Kannada organisation. The group informed the Urban District Child Protection Office, which acted swiftly.

Officials visited the family home on May 7, four days before the scheduled ceremony, and intervened after confirming the details According to a Child Welfare Committee official, the girl's mother broke down during questioning and expressed distress over the situation.

The official said she even threatened self-harm when informed that her daughter could be moved to a shelter home for protection Authorities counselled the family and stopped the marriage proceedings.

B'lore Agricultural University convocation to award 1,115 degrees

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

The 60th convocation of Bangalore Agricultural University will be held on May 12, with 1,115 students receiving degrees.

Vice Chancellor SV Suresh said 140 gold medals and gold medal award certificates will be distributed among 55 students.

The programme at Dr Babu Rajendra Prasad International Auditorium on the GKVK campus will be presided over by Governor Thaawar Chand Gehlot, and Agriculture Minister N Chaluvarayaswamy will attend, while former UGC chairman M Jagadesh Kumar will deliver the convocation address.

Officials said 55 students will receive 46 university gold medals and 72 donor gold medals along with 22 donor gold medal certificates.

Thirteen gold medals for PhD, 68 for postgraduates and 59 for undergraduates were announced.

Premkumar K.E from Kolar secured 91.02 percent in BSc Agriculture and will receive 15 medals including university and donor awards.

GVK Naidu, a progressive farmer, and Srikanth H K and T M Arvind will be honoured for contributions to agriculture, innovation and rural development.

University officials said the convocation reflects academic excellence and growing agricultural innovation across Karnataka.

Officials noted that the convocation at GKVK campus continues its tradition as one of the premier agricultural education centres in South India.

Donor institutions contributed significantly, sponsoring medals to encourage research excellence and student achievement in specialised agricultural disciplines.

The university said postgraduate and PhD awards highlight increasing focus on advanced agricultural research, sustainability and technology-driven farming practices.

Many students from rural backgrounds are expected to inspire future generations through their academic performance and field innovations.

The convocation also serves as a platform for networking between academia, government and the agricultural industry, strengthening Karnataka's agritech ecosystem.

Officials emphasised that graduates will play a key role in improving food security, sustainable farming and rural livelihoods across the state.

The university is also exploring international collaborations and research partnerships to further strengthen agricultural education standards.

GREAT SERVICE

Vani Vilas milk bank saves 3,600 neonates, supports critical care in Bengaluru

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

The human breast milk bank at Vani Vilas Hospital, called Amruthadhare, has been a lifesaver for 3612 babies predominantly preterm since its inception in 2022 The bank has collected 863 litres of breast milk from more than 3982 donors Milk from the bank is used for babies in neonatal ICUs The hospital has four NICUs one for preterm babies two for inborn babies and one for outborn babies referred from other hospitals Babies benefiting include those whose mothers cannot express milk those on antipsychotic medication those with postpartum depression those undergoing scans ICU admission and abandoned newborns Breast milk is not just food but essential nutrition immunity and protection Milk banks ensure vulnerable newborns receive life saving benefits A clinician said initial dependency was observed among mothers with babies recovering through donor milk support After discharge some mothers continued dependency leading counselling efforts Doctors now encourage expressing even small quantities supplemented with donor milk Screening includes HIV Hepatitis B VDRL and RT PCR testing when fever is present Milk is rejected if lesions or infections are found on breast nipple or areola Milk can be stored up to six months Demand and supply remain balanced said Dr C Savitha Medical Superintendent Awareness is increasing and mothers

now voluntarily donate milk after counselling The hospital continues to expand participation in the programme ensuring neonatal care benefits reach every critical infant The initiative has become a key support system for preterm survival rates in Bengaluru city Officials say milk banking reduces pressure on families and ensures safe nutrition delivery across NICUs Strict protocols ensure quality control and hygiene standards remain uncompromised throughout storage and distribution The programme also promotes maternal awareness about breastfeeding importance in early neonatal development Hospital staff continue outreach efforts encouraging more donors to participate sustainably Future plans include expanding donor networks and strengthening collection infrastructure within Karnataka healthcare system Experts highlight that such milk banks play a crucial role in reducing infant mortality and improving recovery outcomes especially among premature newborns Continuous awareness campaigns are expected to increase voluntary donations further strengthening neonatal nutrition support systems across urban hospitals Dr Savitha reiterated commitment to maintaining safe efficient and accessible milk banking services for all eligible infants ensuring no newborn is deprived of essential breast milk benefits in critical care units Hospital officials emphasised continued community participation to sustain donations and improve survival outcomes for vulnerable neonates in Karnataka's public healthcare system ensuring better infant care outcomes overall.

QUICK READ

Vijayapura pays tribute to Saint Mallamma

VIJAYAPURA

Vijayapura district administration and Zilla Panchayat celebrated the birth anniversary of 12th-century saint Hemareddy Mallamma. The programme, organised by the Information and Public Relations Department, was held near Sri Anuchantraya Rangamandira. Officials and guests offered floral tributes to the saint's portrait and remembered her devotion and service to society. Speakers stressed the need to protect and spread the teachings of great spiritual leaders. City Municipal Council Commissioner Rajashekar Dambal, Nirmiti Kendra Project Director Akash Tichishet, Dr. A.H. Bidari, Vidya Ankalagi, and several local leaders attended the event. Department staff and organisations also joined the celebration respectfully.

Three year old found safe under sofa after panic call

MANDYA

A kidnapping scare in Ganjam village of Srirangapatna taluk ended on a surprising note after a three-year-old girl, reported missing by her parents, was found asleep under a sofa inside her own house. The incident occurred when the child suddenly went missing while playing at home, causing panic among her parents. Believing she had been kidnapped, they immediately alerted the 112 emergency helpline and lodged a complaint with Srirangapatna police. Police teams rushed to the village and launched a search operation across the area, checking nearby houses and streets. The situation created tension among residents as the search continued.

Lightning strikes raise alarm in Karkala and Hebri

KARKALA

Frequent lightning incidents during the pre-monsoon season have created concern among residents of Karkala and Hebri in Udupi district, with growing reports of damage to homes, livestock, and property. Officials said thunderstorms accompanied by heavy rain and strong winds have become more intense in May and June, leading to a rise in lightning strikes across rural and foothill areas of the Western Ghats. Farmers and labourers working outdoors are considered most at risk. Over the past few years, lightning has claimed the lives of more than 20 cattle in the region, while several people have also suffered injuries. In addition, over 200 houses.

Udupi districts stay safe despite recent rain

Udupi reports no major damage or casualties following light rainfall, with infrastructure and agriculture remaining secure across the region.

UDUPI

Local authorities released a preliminary weather report, bringing a sense of relief to residents across the region. Despite recent rainfall, the district has avoided any major damage, with no reports of human casualties, missing persons, or injuries caused by lightning or wind.

The latest data shows that the rains remained relatively light across various areas. Karkala saw the highest activity with 10.6 mm of rain, followed by Kaup at 7.3 mm. Other areas like Byndoor and Hebri received much smaller amounts, while Udupi and Kundapur saw less than a millimeter.

Overall, the district averaged a mild 3.7 mm of rainfall, which has helped keep the summer heat at bay without causing any flooding.

Property and agriculture have also remained untouched by the weather. Officials confirmed that no houses were damaged, and there have been no reports of lost livestock or ruined crops.

Unlike heavier monsoon seasons that often disrupt daily life, road connectivity remains perfectly intact, and power supplies continue to run without interruption.Furthermore, major reservoirs are stable, with no concerning changes in water levels or sudden inflows. For now, there has been no need to open emergency care centers or evacuate any villages. While the clouds may still be lingering, the "Preliminary Rain Report" suggests that the district is safely weathering the showers.

Residents can enjoy the cooler temperatures knowing that, for today, the local infrastructure and community remain completely secure.

Tragedy at hill temple as leopard kills boy

CHAMARAJANAGAR

A 10-year-old boy was killed by a leopard at Sri Male Mahadeshwara hill, sparking public outrage over inadequate safety measures and forest department negligence during pilgrimages.

A family's pilgrimage to the famous Sri Male Mahadeshwara hill turned into a nightmare when a leopard attacked and killed a 10-year-old boy. The victim, identified as Harshit from Bangalore, was walking toward Nagamale with his family when the predator struck. Sadly, the young boy died instantly at the scene.

The heartbreaking incident has sparked waves of shock and anger across the state. What was meant to be a spiritual journey ended in a preventable tragedy, leaving many to wonder how a child could be lost at such a popular holy site. Public outrage is growing as residents and visitors blame the government and Forest Department for failing to secure the busy footpath.

Critics argue that although wild animal sightings have increased lately, the authorities did not take enough action to protect the thousands of devotees who walk these trails. There are now urgent calls for the installation of CCTV cameras, better warning signs, and more forest guards to patrol the area, especially during evening hours.

"It is devastating that the system only wakes up after a life is lost," one witness remarked. The public is demanding immediate financial compensation for Harshit's grieving family and a permanent safety plan for the pilgrimage route. This tragedy serves as a grim reminder that protecting human life must be the top priority in areas where the forest and the public meet. For now, a heavy silence hangs over the hills as a community mourns.

Chamarajanagar University launches its first PhD program with scholarships, encouraging master's graduates to pursue advanced research

Chamarajanagar University launches new PhD research program

CHAMARAJANAGAR

In a major boost for higher education, Chamarajanagar University Registrar Prof. K.M. Mahadevan announced that students can now pursue PhD degrees locally starting this academic year. Speaking at the closing ceremony of the JSS Women's College Cultural and Sports Forum, he urged master's graduates to seize this opportunity to dive into advanced research.

The program comes with significant financial support, offering five-year scholarships to help researchers focus on their work without financial stress. Prof. Mahadevan encouraged students to follow their passions, noting that success comes naturally when students choose subjects that bring them joy. He highlighted that while academic texts are essential, extracurricular interests like music and folk arts can also lead to professional degrees and successful careers.

During the event, the Registrar also praised the district as a cradle of folk culture, calling for the establishment of a dedicated Folk University in the region. He was joined by JSS B.Ed College Principal Dr. K.C. Basavanna, who emphasized that when women achieve higher education and secure jobs, the entire society progresses.

The ceremony was a celebration of talent, featuring prize distributions for winners in folk singing, athletics, and academic excellence. International Kho-Kho player Chaitra attended as a guest, inspiring students to balance sports with studies.

As the university opens its doors to doctoral candidates, the message to the district's youth was clear, don't just earn a degree, you build the knowledge and skills to lead a better life.

Heart doctors and imaging experts now inseparable

MYSURU

The bond between heart care and medical imaging has never been stronger. At a recent medical conference in Mysuru, Dr. B. Dinesha, director of the Sri Jayadeva Institute, described cardiology and radiology as "first-degree relatives." He explained that these two fields now rely on each other completely to find and treat diseases.

Medical technology has come a long way, moving from basic X-rays to advanced MRI and CT scans. Today, doctors also use Artificial Intelligence (AI) to see inside the human body with incredible detail. Dr. Dinesha noted that radiology is no longer just about taking pictures, it is essential for almost every branch of medicine. In fact, most top medical journals now refuse to publish research unless it includes high-quality imaging as proof.

However, a major challenge remains. While big cities have the best technology, many poor and rural areas are left behind. Dr. Dinesha stressed that advanced tools like AI are only truly valuable if they can help everyone, regardless of their wealth. He also pointed out a massive shortage of experts, noting that India has only 20,000 registered radiologists to serve over 1.5 billion people.

Chikkamagaluru Woman Loses Lakhs in Silent Scam

CHIKKAMAGALURU

A terrifying new form of cybercrime has surfaced in Chikkamagaluru, where a local woman lost ₹18.24 lakh without ever clicking a link or sharing a password. Unlike typical scams, the victim received no suspicious "APK" files and never shared an OTP, yet her savings vanished in stages over several weeks.

The fraud took place between March 4 and April 21, but the woman only discovered the theft during a routine bank check. Fraudsters managed to move the money from her private bank account to various unknown digital wallets and accounts across the country. Because no alert messages or OTPs were sent to her phone, she had no idea her account was being bled dry.

This case has sent shockwaves through the district, as it bypasses the usual safety warnings people are taught to follow.

Local police have registered the case and are currently conducting a technical investigation to trace where the money landed.

Since January, the district has seen 29 cybercrime cases, with victims losing a total of nearly ₹5 crore to various online scams.Cyber Police officials are now warning the public that staying safe requires more than just hiding your OTP.

They recommend checking bank statements frequently and immediately reporting any tiny, unauthorized transaction to the 1930 helpline. As hackers find ways to bypass traditional alerts, authorities are urging citizens to remain hyper-vigilant about their digital footprints and bank activity.

Triple trouble: Three huge cobras rescued from village homes

CHIKKAMAGALURU

Residents of Bidre village near Balehonnur were gripped by "cobra fever" after three massive snakes were discovered in three neighboring houses simultaneously. The reptiles, seeking relief from the summer heat, had made themselves a bit too comfortable in local chicken coops.

The drama began when the families of Devaraj, B.B. Ramegowda, and Nagaratna noticed the uninvited guests. These weren't just passing through, they were there for a feast: Faced with three venomous predators, the terrified families called in local reptile expert Albert from Bananahonnur. Albert conducted a meticulous two-and-a-half-hour operation to safely capture the trio.

"I caught one female and two male cobras in total," Albert explained. "The female had been spotted coming and going for a week, and we managed to preserve her 21 eggs as well."

Once secured, the snakes were transported away from the village and released into the Elekallu reserve forest. Thanks to the expert's quick work, the village is now snake-free, and the cobras and their eggs, have been given a second chance in the wild.

Former MLA prays for monsoon and prosperity

HUNSUR

Former MLA Snehajeevi H.P. Manjunath visited the Gavadagere village in Hunsur Taluk to participate in a sacred ritual for the public good. Accompanied by his father, H.N. Prem Kumar, and his mother, Sri Ratna Prem Kumar, the former legislator joined the "Lok Kalyanartha Sri Durga Yagya" at the Sri Gurulinga Jangamadevara Matha.

The special religious ceremony was organized by Sri Nataraja Swamiji of the Sri Matha. During the event, the former MLA and his family offered deep prayers for the welfare of the state. Their primary focus was a plea for a healthy monsoon season to ensure a successful harvest for local farmers. They also prayed that the people of Karnataka be blessed with lasting happiness and financial stability.

Demonstrating his personal commitment to the cause, Snehajeevi H.P. Manjunath also made a private financial donation to support the costs of the grand puja. He spent time interacting with the spiritual leaders and members of the community who had gathered for the ritual.

To mark the occasion and acknowledge his contribution to the local community, Swamiji performed a traditional honoring ceremony for the former MLA.

Frustrated villagers protest ongoing summer power cuts

KALABURAGI

More than 40 villages and local settlements are currently facing a major crisis as frequent power outages disrupt daily life during the sweltering summer heat. Residents living under the Alahalli power substation limits have voiced their anger, claiming that the lack of reliable electricity is making the rising temperatures unbearable.

The affected communities, including areas like Hannikera and Alahalli, are managed by GESCOM.

HUNSUR BHOVI COMMUNITY FORMS NEW PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

HUNSUR

In a significant move to unite a long-fragmented group, members of the Bhovi community in Hunsur Taluk have officially launched a new association. The group was formed during a crucial meeting held at the Nakshatra Hotel hall, aiming to fill a leadership vacuum that has existed for several years. The primary goal of this fresh organization is to drive social, educational, and economic growth for community members across the region. The meeting was held under the guidance of Shri Thimmarasabhovi, a respected elder of the community. During the session, members from all corners of the taluk gathered to voice their concerns and share their visions for the future. After a detailed discussion, the assembly reached a unanimous decision to elect a dedicated board of directors to lead the newly formed association.

This collective approach ensures that every part of the taluk has a seat at the table.

Key community figures and professionals played a vital role in the formation process. Notable attendees included retired Assistant Executive Engineer V.Y. Bhojaraj, along with Kataraju, Thimmaraju, and Swamibhovi.

Other influential members like P. Eeraiah, R. Ramaiah, K. Ganesh, and T. Nagaraju were also present to lend their support and expertise to the cause.The leaders emphasized that without a proper organization, the community had struggled to access vital resources and government benefits. By standing together, they plan to launch programs that help youth with schooling and assist families in finding better financial opportunities. This new chapter marks a unified effort to ensure no community member is left behind.

RURAL HIGH SCHOOLS NOW UPGRADED TO COLLEGES

MYSURU

In a major boost for rural education, the state government has officially upgraded high schools in Salundi and Kasuvinahalli into pre-university (PU) colleges. This move is designed to bring higher education directly to the doorsteps of village students, ensuring they no longer have to travel long distances to continue their studies.The initiative follows a promise made by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah in the recent budget to upgrade 23 state schools. For now, these new colleges will focus on the commerce stream. Students can enroll to study subjects like accountancy, business studies, and computer science. This change is particularly meaningful for female students in the region, as having a college nearby removes the safety concerns and high costs associated with traveling to distant towns. To qualify for this upgrade, the schools had to meet strict rules. They needed at least 40 graduating students and had to be located in areas where no other government college existed within a 15-kilometer radius.

CULTURAL HARMONY GIFT

Kannada books gifted at grand Marathi wedding

SOLAPUR

In a beautiful display of cultural harmony, the 112th Foundation Day of the Kannada Sahitya Parishad was celebrated during a Marathi wedding in Solapur. The ceremony, held at the Manohar Cultural Hall, saw the union of the Hirolli Deshmukh and Jagadale families marked by a unique literary gift.

Shivaraj Andagi, the Honorary Secretary of the Kalaburagi District Kannada Sahitya Parishad, presented the newlyweds and their children with a Kannada flag and copies of the book Mental Health. The book is a renowned work by Dr. C.R. Chandrashekar, a pioneering expert in Kannada psychiatric literature. By gifting this specific text, the Parishad aimed to support the "physical, intellectual, and emotional development" of the next generation.

During the presentation, Andagi offered his heartfelt blessings, wishing the couple a prosperous life of 112 years, honoring the years since the Parishad's founding, under the grace of Mother Bhuvaneshwari. He emphasized that even across state lines and different languages, the gift of knowledge remains a universal blessing.

The event was attended by a large gathering of family members, including Danish Deshmukh, Suresh Jagadale, and several other prominent guests who witnessed this meaningful exchange. This gesture served as a powerful reminder of how literature can bridge communities, turning a traditional wedding into a celebration of both family and heritage. The unique "book gift" tradition highlights the Parishad's ongoing efforts to promote Kannada culture and mental health awareness in every corner of society.

QUICK READ

Thokkottu junction traffic chaos worsens due to illegal parking

Thokkottu

Severe traffic congestion at Thokkottu junction has intensified due to unregulated parking, roadside bus stops, and vehicles blocking key stretches of the road, causing daily hardship for commuters. According to reports, auto-rickshaws parked haphazardly, buses stopping in the middle of the road, and passengers waiting on the carriageway have severely disrupted traffic flow. Potholes along road margins have further reduced usable space, worsening the bottleneck. Commuters, including office workers, students, and senior citizens, face long delays every evening. Emergency vehicles such as ambulances and school buses are also frequently caught in the jam. Despite traffic police efforts, the situation remains unresolved, with citizens urging authorities to improve enforcement, remove illegal parking, and upgrade infrastructure for smoother movement.

KSRTC conductor accused of misbehaving with student

Beltangady

A complaint has been filed against a conductor of a Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) bus after a female college student alleged inappropriate behaviour during her journey from Ujire to Mangaluru. According to the complaint lodged at Punjalkatte Police Station, the student said the incident occurred when the bus was nearing Beltangady town. She alleged that the conductor misbehaved with her under the pretext of issuing a ticket. Disturbed by the incident, she approached the police and formally filed a complaint. Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation officials have not issued a detailed statement yet. Police have registered the case and initiated an investigation into the allegations.

Success means happiness in life: Gavishiddeshwara Swamiji

Hubballi

Success is not defined by wealth but by inner happiness and satisfaction, said Abhinava Gavishiddeshwara Swamiji while addressing a programme at an apartment inauguration event. He said people must understand the purpose of life between birth and death, and those who develop determination and joy in life are the ones who truly succeed. He added that material possessions alone cannot measure happiness, and even a wealthy person can feel poor if there is inner sadness. Swamiji emphasized that contentment with what life offers leads to peace and success.

Kolar voters question local leader for low activity

Kolar voters express frustration with MP Mallesh Babu, criticizing his perceived inactivity and lack of grassroots engagement since election.

KOLAR

The political atmosphere in Kolar has turned tense as residents and party members begin to openly question the performance of MP Mallesh Babu. While he won his seat through a major alliance between the JDS and BJP, recent online debates suggest that his own supporters are feeling neglected just a short time into his term.Critics have taken to social media to voice their frustrations, claiming that Mallesh Babu has been largely absent from the hard work of building the party. According to local reports, members are upset that the MP rarely holds political meetings or organizes grassroots events. Instead, they allege his public appearances are mostly limited to attending private social functions and weddings, rather than solving the urgent problems of the district.The situation is further complicated by comparisons to the former MP, S. Muniswamy. Many supporters still feel a strong connection to the previous leader, and whispers of "internal dissatisfaction" are growing louder within the alliance. Some party workers feel that the energy and influence the former MP brought to the region are now missing under the current leadership.This growing digital backlash highlights a deeper divide within the local political ranks. As the debate intensifies, political experts believe that Mallesh Babu will need to shift his focus toward more active community engagement to win back the trust of his base. For now, the people of Kolar are watching closely, waiting to see if their representative will step up and become the active leader they expected.

Mangaluru launches a ₹3.5 crore park project near Kadri, featuring modern amenities, dedicated parking, and sustainable water recycling systems.

NEW KADRI PARK PROJECT BOOSTS LOCAL RECREATION

KADRI

Mangaluru is preparing for a major green transformation as a new ₹3.5 crore public park project takes flight under the AMRUT scheme. The second park will be built on 3.5 acres of land directly across from the popular Kadri Park. This development aims to create a fresh recreational hub while solving long-standing issues like traffic and parking in the city center.Currently, the original 17-acre Kadri Park is the city's primary destination for nature lovers. However, its popularity has led to crowded streets and a lack of space for visitor vehicles. The new addition will feature modern walking tracks, lush gardens, and a small open-air stage for community events. Most importantly, it will include a dedicated parking area to ease the congestion that often clogs local roads during weekends and holidays.Water management is another key focus of this ambitious plan. To keep both parks green during the dry summer months, officials will reuse treated water from the nearby Bendorewell treatment plant. A massive 70-lakh-litre tank will be built to store this recycled water, ensuring the gardens stay vibrant without draining the city's drinking supply.

Top officials, including District Commissioner Darshan, recently inspected the site to finalize the blueprint. Local committee members believe this expansion will turn the Kadri area into a premier cultural and relaxation zone. By combining modern amenities with eco-friendly water solutions, the project promises to give Mangaluru residents a beautiful, sustainable space to breathe, walk, and gather.

Chief urged to fund vital development schemes

HEBRI

The Chairman of the Sri Narayana Guru Development Corporation, Mudradi Manjunath Poojary, has officially called upon Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to release a special financial grant. The appeal aims to provide the corporation with the "muscle" needed to expand its social welfare programs and better serve marginalized communities across the state.During a formal meeting, Poojary explained that while the corporation is active, it requires a significant boost in funding to reach its full potential. He stressed that more money is needed to improve educational scholarships, kickstart self-employment projects, and provide skill training for local youth. Without this extra support, many families waiting for help at the grassroots level may continue to face long-pending developmental delays.

Bantwal woman saves family pottery using support

BANTWAL

In an era where modern machines often replace ancient crafts, Prachina Kumari from Veerakamba village is proving that tradition still has a place in the market. By reviving her family's ancestral pottery trade, she has transitioned from a computer operator to a successful business owner, inspiring countless rural women along the way.

Prachina's journey began after the pandemic forced her and her husband, Jagannath, to return to their home village. Faced with an uncertain future, she remembered the grit of her mother, Leelavathi, who once sold clay pots door-to-door to fund her children's education. Determined to keep that legacy alive, Prachina decided to turn the humble craft into a professional venture.The turning point came when she joined a local self-help group. Through the Umamaheshwari Sneha Sanjeevini Sangha, she accessed an initial loan of ₹50,000 to jumpstart her work. As her beautiful clay products gained popularity, she secured a larger loan of ₹1.5 lakh to open her own store, "Amulya." Today, her business flourishes at temple festivals and village fairs across Dakshina Kannada.

Beyond pottery, Prachina is a multi-talented entrepreneur who has mastered tailoring and serves as a "Pashu Sakhi" for her community. She even purchased a vehicle to transport her goods independently. Prachina credits her success to the self-help group, which provided the financial backbone needed to transform her mother's dream into a thriving modern reality.

Honnavar Police catch quick chain snatching thieves

HONNAVAR

In a display of remarkable speed and coordination, local police managed to track down and arrest two suspected chain snatchers within just sixty minutes of their crime. The dramatic afternoon chase took place near Nelavanki, proving that quick public reporting combined with rapid police response can lead to instant justice.

The incident began around 4:00 pm when a woman was walking along the roadside. Suddenly, two men on a motorcycle zoomed past and grabbed a gold chain from her neck. As the thieves sped away, the woman's cries for help caught the attention of a nearby local youth. Although the brave young man could not physically stop the fleeing bike, he kept a sharp eye on the suspects, memorizing their clothing and the specific details of their motorcycle.

Armed with this precise description, the police immediately launched a "nakabandi" operation, setting up roadblocks at key locations across the taluk. The strategy worked perfectly. Within an hour, officers spotted and intercepted the pair near Honnavar. The suspects were taken into custody and the stolen jewelry was recovered.

A formal case has been registered at the Manki Police Station, where investigators are now looking into the background of the accused. Local residents have expressed high praise for the officers' efficiency. They also credited the alert youth, whose presence of mind provided the vital clues needed to close the case before the sun had even set on the crime.

MANIPAL'S CFA MILESTONE

Manipal Tech College makes big history

MANIPAL

In a groundbreaking move for Indian education, the Manipal Institute of Technology (MIT) has officially become the first engineering college in the country to be recognized by the global CFA Institute. This prestigious honor marks a major shift in how future engineers are trained to handle the complex world of money and technology.

The official certificate was presented during a special ceremony held on May 6. Top leaders from the CFA Institute joined the Registrar of MAHE and the Director of MIT to celebrate this achievement. This partnership is not just a title, it opens doors for students to access world-class study guides, valuable scholarships, and connections with financial experts across the globe.

This milestone follows the 2023 launch of MIT's unique degree in Computer Science and Financial Technology. By blending coding with finance and data analytics, the college is preparing students for the fast-growing fintech industry. Instead of just learning about machines, these future graduates will now master the global standards of investment and digital banking.

School officials noted that this recognition gives their students a massive edge in the job market. As technology and finance continue to merge, having an engineering background backed by the CFA's high standards is a rare and powerful combination. Education experts believe this move cements MIT's status as a leader in innovation, proving that the engineers of tomorrow must be as comfortable with balance sheets as they are with computer software.

Railway Police catch suspected burglar with gold

Mangaluru Railway Police arrested a Kasaragod man with gold worth ₹13 lakh, identifying him as a repeat offender involved in a recent Thrissur house robbery.

MANGALURU

The Railway Protection Force (RPF) made a major breakthrough by arresting a suspected professional thief at the Mangaluru Central Railway Station. The suspect, identified as 25-year-old Ashif P.H. from Kasaragod, was found carrying a stash of gold jewelry worth over ₹13 lakh.

Officers on duty became suspicious when they noticed the young man wandering aimlessly around the station premises while clutching a bag. When security personnel stopped him for questioning, he could not provide any legal documents for the nearly 94 grams of gold found inside. The seized treasure included a variety of items such as bangles, necklaces, rings, and earrings.During a quick interrogation, Ashif reportedly confessed that the ornaments were the result of a recent house robbery in Thrissur, Kerala. Further background checks revealed a long criminal history. Police discovered that the suspect is allegedly linked to multiple burglaries across several districts, including Ernakulam. In fact, several courts had already issued warrants for his arrest due to past crimes.

"His nervous behavior gave him away," a railway official explained. Once the RPF confirmed his identity and the stolen nature of the goods, they coordinated with neighboring authorities. The suspect has now been handed over to the Kerala police for a more detailed investigation. This arrest is being hailed as a win for railway security, as it removed a seasoned criminal from the tracks and recovered valuable property belonging to a family in distress.

Vitla Police seize massive illegal rice haul

VITLA

Authorities took swift action against the illegal storage of government supplies by raiding a home in Shivajinagar. In a joint operation, the Food Department and local police seized nearly 680 kilograms of ration rice that was hidden inside a parked vehicle. One local man was arrested at the scene for his involvement in the crime.

The crackdown began after officials received a secret tip-off about rice from the Public Distribution System (PDS) being hoarded illegally. When officers arrived at the village house on Sunday, they discovered fifteen large plastic sacks stuffed into an autorickshaw. The vehicle, parked on the private property, was being used as a temporary warehouse for the stolen goods, which were meant for families in need.

Police identified the arrested man as 40-year-old Ali Akbar. According to investigators, the suspect admitted to stocking the bags without any legal permission. The total haul weighed exactly 679.38 kilograms, with an estimated market value of over ₹23,000. Officers promptly confiscated the rice and the vehicle used to hide it, marking a victory against local black-market activities.

A formal case has been filed under the Essential Commodities Act at the Vitla Police Station. While the suspect is currently in custody, investigators are working to find out exactly where the rice came from and who else might be helping him. This raid serves as a strong warning that government resources meant for the poor must not be diverted for private profit.

Savadi promises full irrigation for Adahallatti village

ATHANI

Farmers in Adahallatti village have a reason to celebrate as MLA Lakshman Savadi announced a massive push to bring the entire region under irrigation. Speaking at a ceremony near Hipperagi Tota School, Savadi laid the foundation for a new bridge-cum-barrage, a critical project costing ₹2.50 crore that will help manage water and improve local travel.

The MLA highlighted that his primary goal is to transform the Athani constituency through farmer-friendly policies. He explained that by combining the existing tank-filling schemes with the active Kotalagi Ammajeswari project, Adahallatti will soon achieve 100% irrigation coverage. This ensures that every field in the village will have a reliable water source, significantly boosting crop yields and rural income.

Beyond water, Savadi revealed a broader plan for local infrastructure. Starting this June, a major road paving project connecting Yalihadalagi to the Sindhoor border will begin at a cost of ₹8.5 crore. Additionally, ₹50 lakh has been sanctioned for a new community hall at the Basaveshwara temple, fulfilling a long-standing request from the villagers.

Local leaders and farmers praised the swift action, noting that these projects address problems that have persisted for years. During the event, which was attended by irrigation officials and community elders, Savadi reaffirmed his commitment to basic needs like better schools and clean drinking water. With these multi-crore investments, Adahallatti is set to move away from water scarcity and toward a future of agricultural plenty and modern connectivity.

QUICK READ

India-SA cement ties with focus on astronomy

New Delhi

India's High Commissioner to South Africa, Prabhat Kumar, formally handed over a banner of India's Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA) to the South African Astronomical Observatory (SAAO) during a ceremony at the Royal Observatory in Cape Town to mark further strengthening of the long-standing scientific collaboration between the two countries, according to media reports. Speaking during the ceremony held earlier this week, the Indian envoy commended the SAAO for its exemplary research, adding that the placement of the IUCAA banner was symbolic of the Government of India's priority attached to scientific research and innovation, South Africa's Independent Online (IOL) reported.

Fake NCERT textbooks racket busted in Jharkhand

Hazaribagh

The district administration in Jharkhand's Hazaribagh has cracked down on the sale of fake NCERT textbooks and registered FIRs against three bookshops under the Copyright Act, officials said on Sunday. The action follows the detection of the sale of counterfeit Class 9 NCERT books in the city. The shops named in the FIRs are Sangam Book Depot, Gyan Bhandar-1, and Gyan Bhandar-2. The action has caused a stir among book traders in the city. The district administration said it had been receiving repeated complaints about the sale of fake books being passed off as genuine NCERT publications.

'People's expectations not met under Stalin'

New Delhi

BJP MP Praveen Khandelwal on Sunday congratulated C. Joseph Vijay after he was sworn in as the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, expressing hope that the new government would improve governance in the state after what he described as years of public dissatisfaction under the previous dispensation. Many congratulations to the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. It is hoped that, as compared to the situation of chaos over the past five years in Tamil Nadu and the government under Stalin's leadership not meeting people's expectations, Vijay and TVK will work towards improving governance in Tamil Nadu, Khandelwal said.

Vijay appoints key personnel in TN CM's office

Senthil Kumar, who previously served as Secretary of the Health Department, has been appointed as the Principal Secretary to the CM

CHENNAI

Hours after taking oath as the 13th Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, C. Joseph Vijay on Sunday announced important administrative appointments in the Chief Minister's Office, selecting senior IAS officers P. Senthil Kumar and G. Lakshmi Priya as his principal aides.According to official sources, senior IAS officer P. Senthil Kumar has been appointed as Principal Secretary to the Chief Minister and will also serve as Special Secretary–1 in the Chief Minister's Office. Before this appointment, Senthil Kumar was serving as Secretary of the Health Department.Another senior IAS officer, G. Lakshmi Priya, who earlier served

as Secretary of the Adi Dravidar Welfare Department, has been appointed as Special Secretary–2 to the Chief Minister. Government sources indicated that the appointment of a third Special Secretary is likely to be announced in the coming days.Traditionally, Chief Ministers in Tamil Nadu are assisted by three Special Secretaries and a Joint Secretary within the Chief Minister's Office, with each officer overseeing specific administrative departments and policy matters.

The appointments came soon after Vijay formally assumed charge at the Tamil Nadu Secretariat following his swearing-in ceremony held earlier in the day at the Jawaharlal Nehru Indoor Stadium in Chennai.

Upon his arrival at the Secretariat, the new Chief Minister was given a ceremonial guard of honour by the police. Vijay then proceeded to the Chief Minister's chamber, where he was welcomed by senior officials and briefed about administrative procedures and government functioning.Officials present during the occasion said Vijay appeared emotional and visibly moved before occupying the Chief Minister's chair for the first time. Senior minister K.A. Sengottaiyan was seen encouraging him to take his seat, after which Vijay reportedly smiled modestly before formally assuming office.

Assembly Secretary Srinivasan congratulated the new Chief Minister during the proceedings. Several senior IAS and IPS officers also met Vijay personally and extended their greetings while introducing themselves during interactions at the Secretariat.

The smooth transition of administrative responsibilities and the early appointments within the Chief Minister's Office are being viewed as the first steps in establishing the structure of the new government under Vijay's leadership. Political observers believe the appointments indicate the administration's focus on maintaining continuity in governance while preparing for broader policy decisions in the coming weeks.

Railways approves new loop to ease traffic

NEW DELHI

Commuters in North-West Delhi can finally look forward to smoother travels. Chief Minister Rekha Gupta announced that the Railways has approved two major transport projects.

These include widening the bridge at Haiderpur Badli and building a new elevated loop connecting Shalimar Bagh to Sanjay Gandhi Transport Nagar.

The approval comes after the Delhi Government and Northern Railway completed a detailed technical review. These areas are currently famous for heavy traffic jams and constant delays.

Goyal distributes maternal nutrition kits in Mumbai

MUMBAI

Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Sunday distributed maternal nutrition kits in Mumbai on the occasion of Mother's Day, highlighting the importance of maternal and child health for the country's future.

Addressing the gathering, Goyal said the specially designed nutrition kits were carefully prepared to support women during the final stages of pregnancy and to provide essential items required for newborn babies in their early days. According to the minister, the initiative aims to ensure better healthcare and nutritional support for mothers, particularly those belonging to economically weaker and lower-middle-income families.These kits have been thoughtfully curated to address every essential requirement for mothers and sisters during the final stages of pregnancy. It also takes into account the necessities for the newborn during their initial days, thereby ensuring the good health of both the mother and the child, Goyal said during the programme.

The Union Minister stressed that the health of mothers and children was directly connected to the long-term development of the nation. He said a healthy mother gives birth to a healthy child, who eventually becomes part of the country's future workforce and society.A healthy child born to a healthy mother will be the next generation. This is the future of India, and India's future is going to be the future of the world, he added.Goyal also announced plans to expand the maternal nutrition initiative to different areas across north Mumbai so that more pregnant women receive assistance during pregnancy and childbirth. He noted that many families continue to face financial difficulties in accessing proper nutrition and healthcare during this important period.

'Keeping in mind the health of both mother and child, the Matrushakti Poshan Abhiyan is being conducted across North Mumbai'

During his speech, the minister highlighted several welfare and women empowerment initiatives introduced by the government led by Narendra Modi. He said government schemes aimed at improving access to clean drinking water, education, sanitation, and healthcare have significantly improved the quality of life for women across the country.

Goyal pointed out that household tap water connections have reduced the burden on women who earlier had to carry water from distant wells and rivers. He also stressed the importance of educational opportunities for girls through scholarships and better school infrastructure.

To ensure that every girl receives a good education, scholarships must be provided, and every facility must be made available. A good toilet should also be built in schools and colleges so that sisters do not face any difficulties, providing sanitary pads, he said.

The event was attended by local residents, community workers, and women beneficiaries who welcomed the initiative and appreciated the focus on maternal care and women's welfare.

New era begins as Tamil Nadu shifts

CHENNAI

A historic change has swept through Tamil Nadu as the state welcomes a new leader and a fresh opposition. The DMK officially chose Udhayanidhi Stalin to lead their party in the assembly. He will be supported by veteran leaders KN Nehru and EV Velu, who were named deputy leader and party whip.

This decision follows a massive political earthquake. Famous actor turned politician, Vijay, has officially taken charge as the state's 13th Chief Minister. His party, TVK, shocked the nation by winning 108 seats in its very first election. This victory ended the long-standing rule of the DMK and AIADMK, proving that the people were ready for a brand-new direction.In his first address from the Secretariat, Chief Minister Vijay promised a government that is honest and open. He spoke about his dream for a state built on fairness and safety for women. However, he also shared some tough news. Vijay claimed the previous government left the state's bank accounts empty and burdened with heavy debt. He promised to release a "white paper" soon to show the public the true state of the finances.The new assembly will meet for the first time on 11th May. Newly elected members will take their oaths, and a new Speaker will be chosen on12th May. As Udhayanidhi Stalin prepares to lead the opposition, all eyes are on CM Vijay to see how he will turn his big promises into reality for the people.

Six join Yogi Cabinet as team expands

LUCKNOW

In a major move to strengthen his government, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath expanded his cabinet. During a special ceremony at the Gandhi Auditorium, Governor Anandiben Patel administered the oath to six new ministers, including one woman leader. This expansion is seen as a key step to bring new energy to the state administration.The ceremony welcomed Bhupendra Singh Chaudhary and Manoj Kumar Pandey as full Cabinet Ministers. Mr. Chaudhary previously served as the BJP state president, while Mr. Pandey brings experience as a local lawmaker from Unchahar. Joining them as Ministers of State are Krishna Paswan, Surendra Diler, Hansraj Vishwakarma, and Kailash Singh Rajput. Ms. Paswan's inclusion adds a vital female voice to the new ministerial lineup.

The reshuffle also rewarded hard work within the existing team. Ministers Ajit Singh Pal and Somendra Tomar were promoted to Ministers of State with Independent Charge. After the swearing-in, the room was filled with cheers and patriotic slogans as the new ministers greeted the Governor and Chief Minister with bouquets.Top leaders, including the Deputy Chief Ministers and senior party officials, attended the event to support the new team. The newly appointed ministers come from various regions of Uttar Pradesh, ensuring that different parts of the state are well-represented. With this fresh group of leaders in place, the government aims to speed up development and better serve the people across the state.

HIMANTA THANKS ASSAM VOTERS FOR GIVING A STRONG MANDATE

GUWAHATI

Himanta Biswa Sarma on Sunday thanked the people of Assam for giving a strong mandate to the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance and said the new government would continue working for peace, development, and prosperity in the state.

Addressing party workers and leaders at the BJP headquarters in Guwahati, Sarma said the election victory reflected the people's confidence in the development policies implemented under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

After discussing various issues, we have once again received the blessings of the people. The government has worked with commitment and dedication for the welfare and development of Assam. The people have blessed us for taking the state forward on the path of progress, Sarma said after the legislature party meeting.

He further stated that the BJP-led administration had brought major improvements in governance, infrastructure, and stability across Assam during the past several years. According to Sarma, the government's continued focus on development and law and order had strengthened public trust in the ruling alliance.

The people of Assam have given us their blessings because this government has taken the state towards rapid development and stability. We assure the people that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, we will continue to work tirelessly for the progress of Assam, he added.

Sarma is scheduled to take oath as the Chief Minister of Assam for a second consecutive term on May 12. With the latest electoral victory, the Bharatiya Janata Party will form the government in Assam for the third straight term, further strengthening its political position in the northeastern region of the country.

Earlier in the day, J. P. Nadda formally announced Sarma's name as the leader of the BJP Legislature Party after a meeting attended by newly elected MLAs and NDA alliance partners.

The BJP's alliance partners, including the Asom Gana Parishad and the Bodoland People's Front, extended their support to Sarma as the NDA leader in the state.

Several senior BJP leaders attended the legislature party meeting, including Nayab Singh Saini. The gathering highlighted the party's confidence in Sarma's leadership ahead of the formation of the new government.

Following the legislature party meeting, Sarma met Laxman Prasad Acharya and formally staked claim to form the next government in Assam.

Political observers believe the BJP's continued success in Assam reflects the party's growing organisational strength and influence in Northeast India, where it has expanded significantly over the past decade.

TREASURED TIME

Hosting PM in Hyderabad a special moment: Naidu

HYDERABAD

N. Chandrababu Naidu on Sunday expressed happiness over the visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to his residence in Hyderabad, calling it a special and memorable occasion for his family.

In a message posted on social media platform X, Chandrababu Naidu said he felt deeply honoured to welcome the Prime Minister to his residence located in the upscale Jubilee Hills area of Hyderabad."We are deeply honoured and delighted to welcome Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji to our residence today. This is a truly special and memorable moment for our family," Naidu wrote in his post.Prime Minister Modi arrived in Hyderabad on Sunday afternoon as part of an official visit aimed at launching and laying the foundation stones for several major infrastructure and development projects across Telangana. The projects are collectively valued at more than ₹9,000 crores and are expected to focus on transportation, connectivity, and urban development.The visit marks Modi's first trip to Telangana since assuming office for a third consecutive term as Prime Minister earlier this year. Political observers see the visit as significant, particularly because the Telugu Desam Party led by Chandrababu Naidu is a key ally in the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance government at the Centre.Apart from visiting Naidu's residence, the Prime Minister is also expected to meet Pawan Kalyan, who serves as Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister and heads the Jana Sena Party. Jana Sena is also an alliance partner in the NDA government.Pawan Kalyan also welcomed the Prime Minister through a message posted on X.

Vijay reviews safety in first official meeting

CHENNAI

Just hours after being sworn in as the 13th Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, C. Joseph Vijay held his first official meeting. At the State Secretariat, the new leader met with top police officials and senior secretaries to review the state's law and order situation. This meeting marks the start of his mission to build a safer and more secure environment for all citizens.

Earlier that day, the actor-turned-politician took his oath at a crowded ceremony in Chennai. In his first act as Chief Minister, Vijay signed documents to provide 200 units of free electricity to households. He also approved the creation of special task forces designed to fight illegal drugs and ensure the protection of women across the state.Addressing his supporters, Vijay promised a "new era" of honest and open government. He spoke about his goal to focus on essential services like better schools, clean water, and smoother roads.

QUICK READ

Illegal imported cigarette racket busted

New Delhi
The Delhi Police Crime Branch has arrested two persons and seized a huge quantity of prohibited imported cigarettes worth around Rs 15 lakh from the Chawri Bazar area of the national capital, officials said on Sunday. The seized consignment included premium international cigarette brands such as Esse Light White, Esse Light Gold and Mond, among others. Officials said the recovered cigarette packets did not carry the mandatory statutory health warnings required under Indian law, making them illegal for sale and distribution in the country. According to the Delhi Police, specific and credible information was received on May 6 by the ISC unit of the Crime Branch regarding the illegal storage and wholesale trade of prohibited imported cigarettes in the Naya Bans Road area of Chawri Bazar in Delhi.

Ranchi cops bust hi-tech SSC GD exam racket, 6 held

Ranchi
A major scam has come to light in the Staff Selection Commission's (SSC) General Duty online examination in Jharkhand's capital, Ranchi, where answers were allegedly being solved automatically through remote access, officials said on Sunday. Ranchi police have arrested six people following a raid at an online examination centre in the Pandara police outpost area. The raid was conducted at the Futuristic Online Examination Centre near Piska More after Senior Superintendent of Police Rakesh Ranjan received specific inputs about large-scale irregularities during the examination, which took place on Saturday.

SC condemns fake online quotes attributed to CJI

New Delhi
The Supreme Court has strongly condemned the circulation of fabricated social media posts falsely attributing remarks to Chief Justice of India (CJI) Surya Kant, terming the act as malicious, mischievous, and an attack on public trust in the judiciary. In a press statement, the Office of the CJI said that certain posts currently being circulated on social media platforms had falsely attributed statements to the CJI. Specifically, the account @UnreservedMERIT on X (formerly Twitter) has circulated a fabricated graphic falsely attributing a statement to the CJI, the release said.

Assam Cong has become minority-dominated party: Borah

Composition of Cong legislators in Assembly reflected the changing nature of the party

GUWAHATI

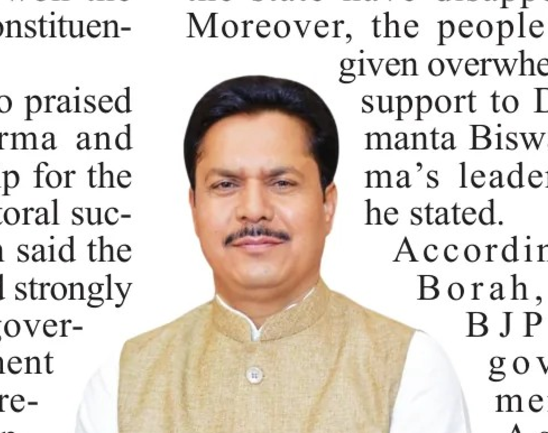
Bhupen Borah on Sunday alleged that the Indian National Congress in Assam has transformed into a minority-dominated political party under the influence of Dhubri MP Rakibul Hussain.

Speaking to reporters in Assam, Borah said the composition of Congress legislators in the state Assembly reflected the changing nature of the party. According to him, almost all Congress MLAs elected in the recent elections belong to the minority community, except for one legislator.

Except for one MLA, all Congress legislators elected to the Assembly belong to the minority community. This clearly shows the direction in which the Congress party in Assam is heading, Borah said during the media interaction.

Bhupen Borah himself was earlier associated with the Congress party and had served as president of the Assam Pradesh Congress Committee before joining the Bharatiya Janata Party ahead of the Assembly elections. Contesting on a BJP ticket, he won the Bihpuria Assembly constituency in the latest polls.

The BJP leader also praised Himanta Biswa Sarma and credited his leadership for the BJP's continued electoral success in Assam. Borah said the people of the state had strongly supported Sarma's governance and development agenda.Referring to recent political developments, Borah said he had earlier predicted that certain realities within the Congress party would become clear after the elections, although many people initially doubted his claims.After what people witnessed recently about Rakibul Hussain's control over the Congress party in Assam, all doubts among the people of the state have disappeared. Moreover, the people have given overwhelming support to Dr Himanta Biswa Sarma's leadership, he stated.



According to Borah, the BJP-led government in Assam was formed with the aspirations and blessings of the people, and the party would continue strengthening its organisational base and governance initiatives across the state.

The people of Assam voted with hope and faith in the BJP-led government. From today, that journey will become even stronger, he added.

The remarks come at a politically significant time, as the BJP prepares to form the government in Assam for a third consecutive term following its recent electoral victory. Political observers believe the statements are part of the continuing political contest between the BJP and Congress over identity politics, governance, and voter representation in the northeastern state.

Adhikari initiates major bureaucratic reshuffle in CMO

KOLKATA

Less than 24 hours after taking oath as the ninth Chief Minister of West Bengal, Suvendu Adhikari carried out a major overhaul of the bureaucratic structure within the Chief Minister's Office at the state secretariat.

According to official sources, as many as 16 bureaucrats attached to the earlier Chief Minister's Office were replaced with new officers soon after the formation of the new government. Among the most notable changes was the transfer of Santanu Mukhopadhya, a 2014-batch IAS officer considered a close confidant of Mamata Banerjee.

Another significant transfer involved Pratap Nayek, who was associated with the previous CMO and also held influence within the Trinamool Congress-affiliated West Bengal Government Employees' Federation. Nayek has reportedly been transferred to the Palbazar Block Development Office at Bijanbari in Darjeeling district.

In another major administrative move, around 46 officers who had been serving as principal secretaries to ministers in the earlier cabinet were temporarily placed under the state Personnel and Administrative Reforms Department. Government officials stated that their future postings would be decided later.

On Saturday, shortly after Adhikari's swearing-in ceremony, retired IAS officer Subrata Gupta was appointed as adviser to the Chief Minister. Gupta had earlier served as a special poll observer appointed by the Election Commission of India during the recently concluded West Bengal Assembly elections and had received appreciation for his role during the electoral process.

The state government also appointed Subrata Bala, a 2017-batch IAS officer, as Principal Secretary to the Chief Minister. Before the appointment, Bala was serving as Additional District Magistrate of South 24 Parganas district.Meanwhile, significant changes were also introduced within the Kolkata Police. Authorities transferred 93 police officers from various ranks, including sub-inspectors, inspectors, assistant commissioners, and deputy commissioners, out of Kolkata police jurisdiction.

'16 bureaucrats attached to the earlier CMO were replaced with new officers soon after the formation of new govt'

Most of the transferred officers were reportedly associated with the Trinamool Congress-linked Police Welfare Association. The officers have been posted to several districts across the state, including Cooch Behar, Kalimpong, Jalpaiguri, Bankura, and Purulia, among others.

Political observers believe the sweeping administrative changes signal the new government's attempt to restructure the state bureaucracy and establish a fresh administrative setup aligned with the priorities of the new leadership.

PM launches Rs 9,400 cr infra, textile projects

HYDERABAD

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday launched and laid the foundation stone for a series of infrastructure and industrial projects worth nearly Rs 9,400 crore in Telangana, pitching the state as a key driver of India's manufacturing and connectivity ambitions.

The event, held at the Hyderabad International Convention Centre (HICC), was attended by Telangana Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla, Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, Union Minister G Kishan Reddy and other senior leaders.

Among the major projects unveiled were the four-laning of National Highway-167 between Gudebellur and Mahabubnagar as part of the Hyderabad–Panaji Economic Corridor, and the development of the Zaheerabad Industrial Area in Sangareddy district.

The prime minister also flagged off several railway and logistics projects, including sections of the Kazipet–Vijayawada rail multi-tracking corridor, the Kazipet Rail Under Rail Bypass, and a new Greenfield Petroleum, Oil and Lubricants (POL) terminal in Hyderabad.

Mamata's political era in Bengal is over: Samik Bhattacharya

KOLKATA

Samik Bhattacharya on Sunday launched a strong political attack on former West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, claiming that her political era in the state had ended permanently and that no future alliance could restore her to power.

Speaking to reporters, Bhattacharya said Mamata Banerjee was free to travel wherever she wished but insisted that her political influence in West Bengal had effectively come to an end.

She can go to the Moon, she can go to Antarctica, she is free to go anywhere; it is her vacation, Bhattacharya remarked while commenting on the former Chief Minister's political future.

The BJP leader credited the rise of the Bharatiya Janata Party in West Bengal to years of struggle and sacrifice by party workers across the country.

He said BJP supporters had long dreamed of establishing a government inspired by Syama Prasad Mukherjee in his home state.

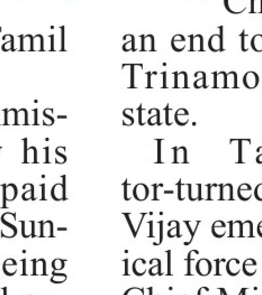
Every worker of the Bharatiya Janata Party, from Kashmir to Kanyakumari, carrying the BJP flag, had this dream in their hearts that a government inspired by Syama Prasad Mukherjee should be formed in the land of Syama Prasad Mukherjee, Bhattacharya said.

He further claimed that the BJP's political success in the state came through the sacrifices of party workers, alleging that 321 workers had lost their lives during years of political conflict and struggle in the state.

CEC Gyanesh Kumar visits Tirumala temple

TIRUPATI

Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar on Sunday visited the renowned Tirumala Venkateswara Temple in Andhra Pradesh's Tirupati along with his family and offered prayers to Lord Sri Venkateswara Swamy following the successful and peaceful conduct of the 2026 Assembly elections in West Bengal, Assam, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Puducherry.



The Chief Election Commissioner, accompanied by his wife, Anuradha Kumar, paid obeisance at the temple on Sunday morning after overseeing one of the biggest electoral exercises of the year.

The 2026 Assembly elections in the five regions were closely watched nationwide due to their major political significance and high-stakes contests involving national and regional parties.

The results were declared on May 4 after voting was conducted in multiple phases throughout April.

In a historic political development, the BJP formed the government in West Bengal for the first time, with Suvendu Adhikari taking oath as Chief Minister, bringing an end to the long rule of the Trinamool Congress in the state.

In Tamil Nadu, actor-turned-politician C. Joseph Vijay emerged as a major political force and assumed office as Chief Minister, marking a significant shift in the state's political landscape, traditionally dominated by Dravidian parties.

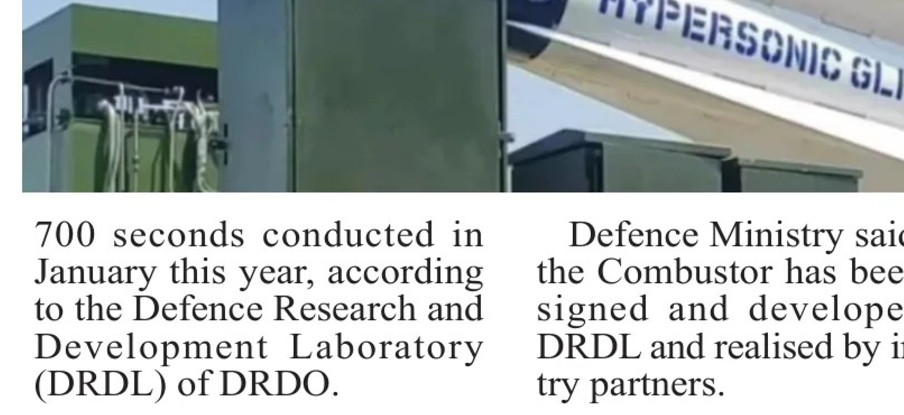
MAJOR BREAKTHROUGH

India advances hypersonic missile tech with DRDO

NEW DELHI

India has achieved a path-breaking milestone in the development of hypersonic missiles by successfully conducting an extensive long-duration test of its Actively Cooled Full Scale Scramjet Combustor.

A run-time of over 1,200 seconds was achieved at the state-of-the-art Scramjet Connect Pipe Test (SCPT) Facility in Hyderabad on Saturday, building upon the earlier successful test of over 700 seconds conducted in January this year, according to the Defence Research and Development Laboratory (DRDL) of DRDO.



Defence Ministry said that the Combustor has been designed and developed by DRDL and realised by industry partners.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh complimented DRDO, industry partners and academia on the successful ground-test of Full Scale Actively Cooled Long Duration Scramjet Engine.

He described the achievement as a solid foundation for the nation's Hypersonic Cruise Missile Development Programme.

Dr Samir V Kamat, Secretary, Department of Defence R&D and Chairman DRDO, also congratulated the teams associated with the test.

This successful test positions India at the forefront of advanced aerospace capabilities and continuously emerging war technologies.

The remarkable feat is achieved through cutting-edge supersonic air-breathing engine, which utilises indigenously developed liquid hydrocarbon endothermic fuel, High temperature Thermal Barrier coating and advanced manufacturing processes, according to an official statement.

MANAPPURAM HOME FINANCE LIMITED
FORMERLY MANAPPURAM HOME FINANCE PVT LTD
CIN : U65923KL2010PLC039179
Regd Office: 8/596 A, Padmaprabha Building, Near Sreerama Swami Temple, Cherppu - Thriprayar Road, Thriprayar, Thrissur, Kerala 680567 | **Phone No.:** 0487-3520504, **Website:** www.manappuramhomefin.com

DEMAND NOTICE

Whereas the Authorized Officer of Manappuram Home Finance Ltd., having our registered office at 8/596 A, Padmaprabha Building, Near Sreerama Swami Temple, Cherppu - Thriprayar Road, Thriprayar, Thrissur, Kerala 680567 and branches at various places in India (hereinafter referred to as "MAHOFIN") is a Company registered under the Companies Act, 1956 and a Financial Institution within the meaning of sub-clause (iv) of clause (m) of sub-section (1) of Section 2 of the Securitization and Reconstruction of financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act. 2002 (hereinafter referred so as the Act) read with Notification No. S.O. 3466 (E) dated 18th December, 2015 issued by the Govt. of India, Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance, New Delhi, inter alia carrying on business of advancing loans for construction and / or purchase of dwelling units and whereas the Borrower / Co-Borrowers as mentioned in Column No. 2 of the below mentioned chart obtained loan from MAHOFIN and whereas MAHOFN being the secured creditor under the SARFAESI Act, and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(2) of the said Act read with Rule 2 of the security interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued demand notice calling upon the Borrowers / Co-Borrowers as mentioned herein below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notices with further interest thereon within 60 days from the date of notice, but the notices could not be served upon some of them for various reasons. That in addition thereto for the purposes of information of the said borrowers enumerated below, the said borrowers are being informed by way of this public notice.

Sr. No.	Name Of The Borrower/ Co-Borrower/Lan/Branch	Description Of Secured Asset In Respect Of Which Interest Has Been Created	Npa Date	Date Of Notice Sent & Outstanding Amount
1	Sarojamma R, Sreekanth N, Nagaveni N, **/MLAP0048034247/** Davangare	All That Piece And Parcel of Village Panchayath Santhebennuru Property No. 3767, E-Swathu No. 151200104900121493, Measuring East West 6.10+5.79/2, North South 9.75 Meter = 59.48 Sq. Mtrs, Wherein House Constructed Measuring 59.48 Sq.Mtrs, Situated At Santhebennuru Village, Channagiri Tq, Davangere District, Within The Limits of Village Panchayath Santhebennuru, Channagiri Block, Karnataka, Pin: 577552. East-Trench, West-Road., South-Road., North-Property of Sharadamma	11-04-2026	16-04-2026 & Rs.351864/-
2	Nagaraja H, Tholasamma C, Haladappa D, **/NHL00480032761/** Davangare	All That Piece And Parcel of Village Panchayath Haronahalli Property No. 190, E-Swathu No. 151200105400300199, Measuring East West 8.382, North South 11.58 Meter = 97.04 Sq. Mtrs, Situated At Haronahalli Village, Channagiri Tq, Davangere District, Within The Limits of Village Panchayath Haronahalli, Channagiri Block, Karnataka, Pin: 577213. East-Road, West-Property of Mallappa S/O Durugappa, South-Property of Mamatha W/O Thippesh., North-Road	11-04-2026	16-04-2026 & Rs.205027/-
3	Surya K S, Shivalingachar K R, Padma G, **/NHL00340028601/** Mysore	All That Piece And Parcel of The Property Bearing No.2788/7A K2/2A, Situated At 2nd Cross Road, Chamundipuram, K. R. Mohalla, Mysuru City, Karnataka, Pin: 570004 Measuring Totally 1053 Square Feet. East-Private House, West-House Belongs To Shivaswamy, South-Conservancy, North-2nd Cross Road, Chamundipuram	11-04-2026	16-04-2026 & Rs.831016/-
4	Halimabanu Moulali Aluru, Moulali Husenmiya Alur, Fairojahammad Kutubuddinsab Yalavatti, **/MHL00260022776/** Hubli	All That Part And Parcel of The Property Bearing Gram Panchayat Property No.201, Measuring 96.08 Sq Mtrs, Along With Residential Structure Bearing E-Property No.151700202500200073 In of Suraleshwar Village, Within The Limits of Gram Panchayat Suraleshwar, Tq: Hangal, Dist: Haveri, Karnataka, Pin: 581102. East-Grampanchayat Road, West-House of Ajjayya Gadigayya Hiremath, South- Property of Mamatajabi Jhafersab Aalur., North-Property of Sundravva Vasappa Gondi	11-04-2026	16-04-2026 & Rs.544369/-
5	Somanna P, Halamma P, Parvathamma P, **/NHL00340027377/** Mysore	All Property Bearing No.82/48/2, P.I.D. No.152200539053020101, Situated At M. Kongahalli Village, Duggahalli Gramapanchayath, Nanjanagud Taluk, Mysuru District, Karnataka, Pin: 571314 Measuring Totally 38.83 Square Meters. East-Road, West Puttaswamygowda, South-House Belongs To Puttaswamygowda., North-Site Belongs To Biregowda	11-04-2026	16-04-2026 & Rs.512360/-
6	Mahaboob B, Sadiq F, **/MHL00480028915/** Davangare	All That Piece And Parcel of Property Bearing Door No.297/2-3 City Survey No.334, Measuring 30X10 Feet Wherein House Constructed, Situated At 11th Cross, Azac Nagar, 3rd Division, 3rd Ward, Davangere City Within The Limits of City Corporation Davangere, Karnataka, Pin: 577001. East-Conservancy, West-11th Cross Road, South-Common Wall And Then Property of Ismail Sab Khadri, North-Common Wall Then Property of Devendrappa	11-04-2026	16-04-2026 & Rs.415325/-
7	Sundari M, Manjushetty S, Ramu M, **/MHL00340028275/** Mysore	All That Piece & Parcel of The Property Bearing No - 155 Unique No -151800208100600587 Kudluru Village Kudumangaluru Gp Somavarapete Talluku Kodagu D., Karnataka, Pin: 571232 Totally Measuring 55.66 Square Meters. East-House of Sarojamma, West-Paisari Land, South-Road., North-House of Amina.	11-04-2026	16-04-2026 & Rs.262254/-
8	Lakshmakka S, Shivanna K C, **/MLAP0048024841/** Davangare	All That Piece And Parcel of The Property No. 6, E Swathu No. 151200601200200006, Measuring 13.1097 X 8.2317 Mts I.107.92 Sq Mts, Situated At Magadi Village, Gursiddapura Gram Panchayath, Jagalur Taluk, Davangere Dist., Karnataka, Pin: 577513. East Panchayath Road, West-Vacant Property of Chapparadalli Basanna, South-House of Aldhalli Obakka, North-House of Shambanna.	11-04-2026	16-04-2026 & Rs.214422/-
9	Syed Dadapeer S, Kousar Banu P, Dadapeer M, **/NHL00480017664/** Davangare	All That Piece And Parcel of Site No. 548, Old Door No. 548, Measuring 30 X 25 Feets Wherein Western Portion Measuring 15X25 Feet Situated At Mirza Ismail Nagar, Davangere City Within The Limits of City Corporation Davanagere, Karnataka, Pin: 577001. East-25 Feet Road, West- Remaining Part of Same Site, South-25 Feet Road, North-Site No. 547	11-04-2026	16-04-2026 & Rs.440473/-
10	Lakshmi G, Shashikumar V, **/MHL00340014139/** Mysore	All That Piece & Parcel of The Property Bearing No. 8/32A Unique No. 150800300800121158 Maddhuvinahalli Village, And Grama Panchayath Kollegala Block Chamarajanagara Karnataka Pin: 571440 Totally Measuring 37.07 Sq Mts. East-Counservancy Road, West-Road., South-House Belongs To Chamaiah, North-Vacant Place	11-04-2026	16-04-2026 & Rs.292895/-
11	Pushpa N, Raju A, **/MHL00340012236/** Mysore	All That Piece & Parcel of The Property Bearing No - 402/1 Unique No. 150800200900420022 Bargi Grama, And Grama Panchayath Gundlupete Block C H Nagara, Karnataka, Pin: 571111 Measuring: East-West-6.7056 North - South-7.0104. East-Mahadevashetty Home, West-Channashetty Vacant Site, South-Rachamma House, North-Road And Ankashetty Vacant Site	11-04-2026	16-04-2026 & Rs.205882/-
12	Jalendra V, Manjula N, Pooja S A, **/NHL00340011344/** Mysore	All That Piece And Parcel of The Property Bearing No.328, P.I.D. No.152200602610900992, Situated At Doddakammarahalli Village, Doddakammarahalli Grama Panchayath, Periyapatna Taluk, Mysuru District, Karnataka, Pin: 571187 Total Measuring 67.91 Meters. East-House Belongs To Vijaya., West-Government Road., South-House Belongs To Venkataswamyshetty., North-House Belongs To Suresh.	11-04-2026	16-04-2026 & Rs.409309/-
13	Manoj D, Indramma B, Suraj D, **/NHL00340008807/** Mysore	All That Piece And Parcel of The Property Bearing No. 302/249, P.I.D. No. 152100102500120050, Situated At Ichanahalli Grama, Ichanahalli Gramapanchayat, K. R. Pete Taluk, Mandya (D), Karnataka, Pin: 571426 Admeasuring: 59.27 Sq Mts. East- House of Suresh. G, West-Road., South-Own Property, North-Property of Thayamma	11-04-2026	16-04-2026 & Rs.773884/-
14	Venkatesh M C, Anju T R, Chikkaraju, Mangalamma, **/NHL00340043479/** Mysore	All That Piece And Parcel of The Property Bearing No.507/368, P.I.D. No.152100601200401223, Situated At Gummanahalli Village, Gummanahalli Gramapanchayath, Pandavapura Taluk, Mandya District, Karnataka, Pin: 571455 Measuring Total 74.14 Square Meters. East-Conservancy And House Belongs To Baby W/O Naga, West-Conservancy And House Belongs To Mangalamma, South-Road., North-Road.	12-04-2026	16-04-2026 & Rs.570862/-
15	Naveena V, Rajamma, Venkatachalaiah, Ravi, **/NHL00900043485/** Vivekananda Circle	All That Piece And Parcel of Property Bearing No. 148, P.I.D. No.150800400400600231, Situated At Bannisarige Grama, Gowdahalli Gramapanchayat, Yalanduru Block, Chamarajanagara (D), Karnataka, Pin: 571442 Admeasuring 61.32 Sq Mts. East-House of Dundamma, West-Government Site, South-Road, North-House of Channajamma	12-04-2026	16-04-2026 & Rs.637454/-
16	Nagaraj S J, Kalavathi P, Srikanta V, **/NHL00340015484/** Mysore	All That Piece And Parcel of The Property Bearing No. F Block 132/A, P.I.D. No.152100700700101705, Situated At Belagola Grama, Belagola Gramapanchayat, Srirangapatna Block, Mandya (D)., Karnataka, Pin: 571438 Admeasuring: 124.86 Sq Mts. East-Poorna Prasanna Nala, West-Road., South-Property of Ashwath, North-Property of Prema	12-04-2026	16-04-2026 & Rs.1003512/-
17	Nagesh, Gangamma, Nagarathnamma KN, **/MHL01430049196/** Nelamangala	All That Piece And Parcel of The Property Bearing Katha No.33 And E-Katha No.152500203300820108, Total Site Measuring 111.483638 Sq Meters And Total House Measuring 111.483638 Sq Meters Is Situated At Dollenahalli Village, C. S. Pura Hobli, Gubbi Taluk, Tumkur District, Karnataka, Pin: 572213. East-Road, West- House of Lakshmidevamma, South-Galli And House of Mudlagiraiah., North-House of Mudlagiraiah	11-04-2026	17-04-2026 & Rs.277212/-
18	Rakshith Kumar, Jayamma, Surendra, **/MLAP0091055762/** Hassan	All That Piece And Parcel of The Site And House Property Bearing Property Id No.151600800401000299, Gram Panchayath Property No. 299, Situated At Hebbasale Village, Hebbasale Gram Panchayath, Sakaleshpura Taluk, Hassan District, Karnataka, Pin: 573134 Totally Measuring 101.171411 Square Meters. East-Road., West-Concrete Road., South-Government Road., North- House Property of Sri. Sharath.	12-04-2026	17-04-2026 & Rs.422408/-
19	Manjunath Chalavadi, Netravati Manjunath Chalavadi, Mantesh Mudukappa Chalavadi, **/NHL00260045740/** Hubli	All That Part And Parcel of The Property Bearing Gram Panchayat No.342/A/1 Measuring 36.38 Sq.mtrs Along With Residential Structure Measuring 36.38 Sq.mtrs, Bearing E-Property No. 151400500900101037 (Sy. No. Gt), of Gojanur Village, Gram Panchayat Gojanur: Lakshmeshawara, Dist: Gadag, Karnataka, Pin: 582116. East-Common Passage (Wahiwat Road), West-Property of Somanna N. Chalavadi, South-Property of Basappa Y. Chalavadi, North-Government Road	12-04-2026	17-04-2026 & Rs.506539/-
20	Siddesha, Anupriya, Dyavamma, **/NHL00340050902/** Mysore	Allthat Pieceand Parcel of The Property Bearing Khatha No. 4, P.I.D. No.151600601800800388, Situated At Haluvagilu Grama, Tattekere Gramapanchayat, Hassan Block, Hassan (D)., Karnataka, Pin: 573217 Admeasuring 139.350000 Sq Mts. East-House of Swamy, West-House of Dyavaiah, South-House of Chandramma, North-Road	13-04-2026	17-04-2026 & Rs.831582/-
21	Malathemma Mattimani, Narayanappa Mattimani, **/MHL01440046334/** Shikaripura	All That The Piece or Parcel of Site Along With Structure Standing There On Being Bearing Site/Khatha/Property No. 101/1, E-Property No. 151700402700120047, Measuring Total 224.810000 Sq. Meter, Including 138.350000 Sq. Meter House, Situated At Hale Nidanegilu Village, Nidanegilu Village Panchayath, Hirekeruru Taluk, Haveri District, Karnataka, Pin: 581111. East House of Mallamma Siddappa Mattimane, West-House of Sudha Siddappa Mattimane, South-House of Thavare Naik Lamani, North-Village Panchayath Road	13-04-2026	17-04-2026 & Rs.712616/-
22	Prakash Basappa Alagavadi, Jyoti Prakash Alagavadi, Ninbavva Basappa Alagavadi, Basappa Laddi, **/NHL00260028521/** Hubli	Residential Gramthana Property Bearing Vpc No.104/1, Property No.151400300600100132, Total Measuring 91.80Sq Mtr And Building Measuring 64.80 Sq Mtr, Situated At Hunasikatti Village, Tq: Nargund & Dist: Gadag, Karnataka, Pin: 582207. East-Property of Devamma Alagawadi, West-Property of Ningappa Alagawadi, South-Govt. Road, North-Property of Chandanagouda Hebballi	13-04-2026	17-04-2026 & Rs.513053/-
23	Mahadevamma N, Ravikumara N, Nagesha B, **/NHL00340026559/** Mysore	All That Piece And Parcel of The Property Bearing No. 1875/1757/1872, P.I.D. No. 152200507122020921, Situated At Hosakote Grama, Hosakote Gramapanchayat, Nanjangud Block, Mysore (D), Karnataka, Pin: 571129 Admeasuring: 111.48 Sq Mts.. East-Hose of Nagarajanayaka, West-House of Chikkanayaka, South-House of Mahadevamma, North- Road	13-04-2026	17-04-2026 & Rs.396225/-
24	Krishna Reddy Y, Roopa K, Gureesha M, **/NHL00510020688/** Shimoga	All That The Piece or Parcel of Site Along With Structure Standing There On Being Bearing Site/Khatha/Property No. 25, E-Property No. 151200105400600025, Measuring Total 92.90 Sq. Meter, Situated At Gopanalu Village, Horonahalli Village Panchayath, Channagiri Taluk, Davanagere District, Karnataka, Pin: 577213. East-Road, West-Road, South-House of Keni, North-Vacant Property of Rajakumar	13-04-2026	17-04-2026 & Rs.620575/-
25	Padmini G, Nagaraju R, **/MHL00340012524/** Mysore	All That Piece And Parcel of The Property Bearing No.10-508- 195, Assessment No.1468/1487/1397, Situated At Ward No.2, Vinayaka Colony, T. Narasipura, Mysuru District, Karnataka, Pin: 571124 Measuring East To West 7.620015 Meters And North To South 9.14018 Meters. East-House Belongs To Mahadeva, West-House Belongs To Pathamma, South-House Belongs To Madegowda., North-Road	13-04-2026	17-04-2026 & Rs.390674/-
26	J Nandish, Rathnamma, Munesh N, **/NLAP0129055728/** Kolar	All That Piece And Parcel of The Residential Building Bearing Grama Panchayath Khatha No.242 And E-Khatha No.151901102200220121, In Total Measuring 72.743080 Sq, Mtrs Is Situated At Shivapura Village, Chaldiganahalli Grama Panchayath, Kasaba Hobli, Srinivasapura Taluk, Kolar District, Karnataka, Pin: 563126. East-Property Belongs To Shivappa., West-Road., South-House Belongs To Venkateshappa., North-Property Belongs To Lakshmamma.	14-04-2026	17-04-2026 & Rs.573816/-
27	Ashok, Renamma, K Prashant, **/NHL01420041427/** Hospet	Residential Property Bearing The Tmc Kustagi Property P.I.D. No. 40-503-29, Ward No. 8, Property Old No. 17-11145, Nirdharana No. 17-11145, In Total Measuring 111.4836 Sq Mtrs, Building Plinth Area 82.126252 Sq Meters, And Situated At Gajendragada Road, Kustagi, Kustagi Tq & Koppal Dist, Karnataka, Pin: 583277. East-Plot No. 16, West-Plot No. 18, South-Sy No. 190/B., North-Road	14-04-2026	17-04-2026 & Rs.792284/-
28	Kavitha T, Ravichandra G M, Balasubramanyam T, **/MLAP0093003927/** Tumkur	All That Piece And Parcel of The Residential Building Bearing Municipal Khatha No. 959/853 And P.I.D. No.23-117-10 Measuring East To West: 4.9833 Mtrs And North To South: 24.140208 Mtrs Is Situated At Ward No.14, Subhash Nagar, N.H. 206, Gubbi Town, Karnataka, Pin: 572216. East-House Belongs To Jabbar Sab., West- House Belongs To Somanna., South-Road., North-Road.	16-04-2026	17-04-2026 & Rs.298510/-

Notice, is therefore given to the Borrowers / Co-Borrowers, as mentioned herein above, calling upon them to make payment of the total outstanding amount as shown herein above, against the respective Borrower / Co-Borrower, within 60 days of publication of this notice. Failure to make payment of the total outstanding amount together with further interest by the respective Borrower/ Co-Borrower, MAHOFIN shall be constrained to take u/s 13(4) for enforcement of security interest upon properties as described above, steps are also being taken for service of notice in other manners as prescribed under the Act and the rules made hereunder. You are put to notice that the said mortgage can be redeemed upon payment of the entire amount due together with costs, charges and expenses incurred by MAHOFIN at any time before the date of publication of notice for public auction or private treaty for transfer by way of sale, as detailed in Section 13(8) of the SARFAESI Act.
Take note that in terms of S-13 (13) of the SARFAESI Act, you are hereby restrained from transferring and/or dealing with the Secured Properties in any manner by way of sale, lease or in any other manner.

Date: 11th May 2026 | Place: KARNATAKA **Sd/- Authorised Officer Manappuram Home Finance Ltd**

QUICK READ

Settlers force reburial of Palestinian man

ASASA

Israeli settlers in the occupied West Bank forced Palestinians to exhume the body of their father from his freshly dug village grave, his family said, near a settlement re-established by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government. Hussein Asasa (80), died on Friday of natural causes and was buried that evening at the cemetery of Asasa village near Jenin, with all the necessary permits from Israel's military, whose forces were at the site, his son Mohammed said. But shortly after the burial, the family was called back by some of the villagers, who said settlers were at the grave, ordering the grave be dug up.

Volcano eruption: 2 Singaporeans confirmed dead

JAKARTA

Two Singaporean nationals missing for days were confirmed dead on Sunday from the eruption of Mount Dukono on Indonesia's Halmahera island, the local rescue agency said. escuers found the bodies around the crater rim, and evacuation was under way, agency head Iwan Ramdani told Reuters. Some 150 personnel with two thermal drones have been deployed since Sunday morning, Iwan said, with the focus of the search around 100-150 metres (350-500 feet) of the crater rim. Mount Dukono in North Maluku province bordering the Pacific Ocean began erupting on Friday, spewing ash as high as 10 km (6 miles).

Russia-Ukraine war is coming to an end: Putin

MOSCOW

Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Saturday that he thought the Ukraine war was coming to an end, remarks that came just hours after he had vowed victory in Ukraine at Moscow's most scaled-back Victory Day parade in years. I think that the matter is coming to an end, Putin told reporters of the Russia-Ukraine war, Europe's deadliest conflict since World War Two. He also said he would be willing to negotiate new security arrangements for Europe, and that his preferred negotiating partner would be Germany's former Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder. Russia's 2022 invasion of Ukraine triggered the most serious crisis in relations between Russia and the West since the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis, when many people feared the world was on the brink of nuclear war.

Magyar sworn in as Hungary's PM

Magyar defeated nationalist Orban after 16 years in power in an April 12 election landslide.

BUDAPEST

Centre-right leader Peter Magyar was officially sworn in as Hungary's new prime minister on Saturday, marking a dramatic political shift after defeating long-serving nationalist leader Viktor Orban in a landslide election victory last month.

Peter Magyar (45) took office with strong public backing after his Tisza party secured a constitutional majority in the April 12 parliamentary elections. The victory ended Viktor Orban's 16-year rule, which had been marked by growing criticism from European allies, concerns over democratic backsliding, and increasing economic difficulties within the country.

During his swearing-in ceremony, Magyar promised sweeping reforms aimed at rebuilding Hungary's democratic institutions and restoring confidence among both citizens and international partners.

Addressing supporters, he declared that the Hungarian people had given his government a clear mandate to open a new chapter in the nation's history and to fundamentally change the political system. Magyar's election victory has already had a noticeable impact on financial markets. Foreign investors responded positively to the change in leadership, with Hungary's

currency, the forint, reaching four-year highs against the euro. Government bond yields also declined, reflecting growing optimism about the country's economic future and expectations of closer cooperation with the European Union.Political analysts say Magyar now faces enormous pressure to deliver quick results.

One of his biggest challenges will be securing billions of euros in suspended European Union funds that were withheld due to concerns about governance and rule-of-law issues under the previous administration. Those funds are considered crucial for stimulating economic growth, stabilising public finances, and improving investor confidence.Hungary has faced years of economic stagnation, rising living costs, and strained diplomatic relations with several Western allies. Many voters viewed the election as an opportunity for change after what critics described as increasing centralisation of power during Orban's leadership.

Despite the celebratory atmosphere surrounding his inauguration, experts warn that Magyar's political honeymoon may not last long. His government will be closely watched both domestically and internationally as it begins implementing reforms and attempts to balance economic recovery with political transformation.

The new PM has pledged transparency, stronger democratic institutions, and renewed engagement with European partners, signalling a potentially significant shift in Hungary's domestic and foreign policy direction.

Iran denies reports of oil leak near Kharg

TEHRAN

Company denied reports of an oil leak near Kharg Island on Sunday, according to state media, after satellite imagery this week appeared to show a large slick west of the country's main oil export hub in the Gulf.

The company's chief executive said inspections had found no evidence of leaks from storage tanks, pipelines, loading facilities or tankers operating near the island.

The official said Iranian teams had conducted additional field inspections and laboratory testing after the reports emerged and had not identified "even the smallest trace" of leakage.

Pak car bomb attack kills 14 police officers

ISLAMABAD

At least 14 police officers were killed in a deadly militant attack in northwestern Pakistan after a car bomb struck a police outpost and gunmen launched an ambush on responding security personnel, authorities said on Sunday.

The attack took place on Saturday in the northwestern region of Bannu, an area that has witnessed repeated militant violence in recent years. According to police officials, the assault began when attackers rammed an explosives-laden vehicle into a police post, causing a massive explosion that destroyed much of the structure.

Images released after the incident showed the police outpost reduced to rubble, with shattered bricks, burned debris, and heavily damaged vehicles scattered across the area. Rescue workers worked through the wreckage for hours to recover victims trapped beneath the collapsed building.

Police official Sajjad Khan confirmed in a statement that the bodies of 14 officers had been recovered from the destroyed outpost. He added that three surviving personnel were rescued alive and immediately transported to nearby hospitals for emergency treatment.

A separate police official, speaking on condition of anonymity because he was not authorised to brief the media, said the attackers stormed the premises after the explosion and opened fire on any officers who survived the initial blast. Security personnel from nearby areas were later dispatched to assist the targeted police unit, but militants reportedly launched a second ambush against the reinforcements.

Other law enforcement personnel were sent to help the police, but the terrorists ambushed them and caused some casualties, the official said.

Police sources further revealed that the militants may have used drones during the coordinated assault, highlighting an increasingly sophisticated level of planning and tactics by armed groups operating in the region. Authorities have not yet identified which militant organisation carried out the attack, although investigations are underway.

Emergency services and ambulances from civil hospitals and rescue agencies were immediately mobilised following the attack. Officials declared a state of emergency in government hospitals across Bannu to ensure rapid treatment for the injured.

The latest incident underscores the growing security challenges facing Pakistan, particularly in the northwestern provinces bordering Afghanistan. In recent months, militant attacks targeting police stations, military installations, and security convoys have increased, raising concerns over regional stability and the safety of law enforcement personnel.Authorities have launched a search operation in the surrounding areas while security has been tightened across the district to prevent further attacks.

Trump awaits Iran's response amid relative calm in Hormuz

CAIRO

The fragile calm in the Strait of Hormuz comes after weeks of escalating tensions that have disrupted regional stability and fuelled fears of a wider conflict in the Middle East.

The narrow waterway, through which a significant portion of the world's oil supply passes, has remained under close international watch as hostilities between Iran and U.S.-allied forces continued to threaten global energy markets.U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio said on Friday that Washington expected Tehran to respond within hours to its latest diplomatic proposal.

The offer is designed to formally end the ongoing war before broader negotiations begin on sensitive issues, including Iran's nuclear program and regional security concerns.

Despite those expectations, there were no immediate signs of movement from Iranian officials over the weekend.

Analysts believe Tehran may still be weighing the political and strategic consequences of accepting the proposal, particularly amid domestic pressure and regional uncertainty.Meanwhile, Rubio held talks in Miami on Saturday with Mohammed bin Abdulrahman al-Thani, focusing on efforts to maintain stability in the Middle East. According to a statement from the U.S. State Department, both leaders discussed the importance of continued cooperation to

Washington has been awaiting Tehran's response to a new proposal for a deal to end the war, reopen the Strait to shipping

deter threats and promote regional security. However, the statement made no direct mention of Iran or the proposed peace framework.

Further attention was drawn to the issue after French broadcaster LCI journalist Margot Haddad reported that U.S. President Donald Trump told her in a brief interview that he expected Iran's answer very soon. Trump is scheduled to travel to China later this week, increasing pressure on Washington to stabilise the situation before high-level international meetings.

The prolonged conflict has already contributed to a growing global energy crisis, with oil prices remaining volatile due to fears of supply disruptions through the Strait of Hormuz. Economists warn that any further escalation could severely impact international trade, inflation rates, and economic growth worldwide.

Although the reduction in hostilities has provided temporary relief, uncertainty continues to dominate diplomatic circles as the world waits for Tehran's next move. International observers believe the coming days could prove critical in determining whether the region moves toward peace negotiations or faces renewed confrontation.

NCW chief Vijaya Rahatkar interacts with women inmates of Tihar Jai

NEW DELHI

National Commission for Women Chairperson Vijaya Rahatkar visited Tihar Jail here to interact with women inmates and reiterated the need to ensure their dignity, safety, mental health, and rehabilitation opportunities, an official said on Sunday. Commending Tihar authorities for their achievements, she said, "From the perspective of prison reforms, Tihar is functioning as a model jail.

ISRAELI STRIKES IN GAZA KILL 3 AMID FRAGILE TRUCE TENSIONS

CAIRO

At least three Palestinians, including two members of the Hamas-run police force, were killed in Israeli air strikes across the Gaza Strip on Sunday, according to local health officials.

The latest violence highlighted the continuing instability in the region despite a U.S.-brokered ceasefire that has remained under strain since it took effect in October 2025.

Medical officials in Gaza Strip said one person was killed in an air strike targeting the Maghazi Refugee Camp. In a separate strike in Khan Younis, the head of the Hamas-run criminal police force,

Wessam Abdel-Hadi, and one of his aides were killed, according to Gaza's interior ministry.

The ministry, which is administered by Hamas, condemned the attacks and accused Israel of continuing to target civilian and administrative structures within Gaza. Israeli authorities did not immediately comment on the reported incidents.

The renewed strikes come amid ongoing tensions despite the ceasefire agreement brokered by the United States in late 2025.

Although the truce significantly reduced the scale of fighting following months of devastating conflict, violence has continued across Gaza with near-daily military operations and sporadic clashes.

Israeli officials have long argued that Hamas uses civilian institutions and infrastructure to support militant activities, an accusation Hamas denies.

According to local medics in Gaza, at least 850 Palestinians have been killed since the ceasefire came into effect in October 2025. Israeli authorities, meanwhile, say militant attacks during the same period have killed four Israeli soldiers.

The continued exchanges have raised concerns among international observers that the ceasefire remains highly fragile and could collapse if hostilities escalate further.

Both Israel and Hamas have repeatedly accused each other of violating the agreement, with each side blaming the other for provoking renewed violence.

Humanitarian conditions in Gaza also remain severe, with many residents continuing to face shortages of food, medicine, electricity, and shelter following months of conflict and destruction. International aid agencies have repeatedly called for sustained calm and unrestricted humanitarian access to prevent further deterioration of conditions in the territory.

Spain starts evacuating hantavirus-hit cruise ship in Tenerife

MADRID

Spanish authorities on Sunday launched the evacuation process for passengers aboard the luxury cruise ship MV Hondius after a hantavirus outbreak was detected on the vessel anchored near Tenerife. The evacuation operation began early Sunday under the supervision of Spain's Health Ministry and emergency response teams. According to government officials, Spanish nationals are being prioritised in the first phase of the evacuation and will disembark in small groups using separate boats to minimise contact and maintain strict health controls.

After reaching shore near Tenerife, passengers will be transferred directly onto specially arranged buses and taken to the local airport. Officials stated that those evacuated will then board a Spanish military aircraft bound for Madrid. Authorities stressed that passengers would remain isolated throughout the process and would not come into contact with the general public.The cruise ship, MV Hondius, departed from the coast of Cape Verde on Wednesday after international health agencies requested Spain's assistance in managing the situation. The decision followed confirmation of a hantavirus outbreak onboard the vessel, raising concerns among European and global health authorities.The World Health Organization and the European Union reportedly urged Spain to coordinate the evacuation due to the ship's proximity to the Canary Islands and the need for rapid containment measures.Europe's public health agency issued a rapid scientific advisory late Saturday, classifying all passengers aboard the vessel as high-risk contacts as a precautionary measure.

'Russian drone strikes continue despite US-brokered ceasefire'

MOSCOW

Ukrainian officials on Sunday reported continued Russian drone strikes and intense battlefield clashes despite a recently announced U.S.-brokered ceasefire between Kyiv and Moscow.

According to Ukrainian authorities, nearly 150 battlefield clashes were recorded over the past 24 hours even after the temporary ceasefire agreement came into effect.

The truce, announced by Donald Trump on Friday, was intended to last from May 9 to May 11 as part of wider efforts to revive stalled peace negotiations between Russia and Ukraine.

In the northeastern Kharkiv Oblast region, Governor Oleh Syniehubov said Russian drone attacks injured eight people, including two children.

Emergency services responded to several damaged residential areas following the overnight strikes.Further south, in the Kherson Oblast region, Governor Oleksandr Prokudin reported that seven people, including a child, were wounded by Russian drone and artillery attacks since early Saturday.

HISTORIC WIN

Australian far-right party wins first lower house seat

SYDNEY

Australia's right-wing populist One Nation party has secured its first seat in the country's lower house, marking a significant political breakthrough as it intensifies its campaign against mass migration and rising living costs.

Farmer David Farley won the rural seat of Farrer in Saturday's by-election, giving One Nation its first representation in the House of Representatives. The electorate is located around 550 kilometres south of Sydney and was previously held by the conservative Liberal Party.

DAVID FARLEY FARRER
one NATION
HE FOUGHT FOR US. ONE NATION STANDS WITH HIM.
Michelle Milthorpe INDEPENDENT
New Hospital, New Site
CHANGE YOU CAN TRUST
DAVIDFARLEY FOR FARRER

Although the by-election result does not threaten the parliamentary majority of centre-left Prime Minister Anthony Albanese and his Australian Labor Party government, political analysts say the outcome represents a major symbolic victory for One Nation. The party already holds four seats in the Senate and has recently gained momentum in national opinion polls.

One Nation, led by Senator Pauline Hanson, has increasingly positioned itself as a populist alternative to Australia's mainstream conservative coalition. The party has adopted hardline policies on immigration, climate measures, and economic issues, often drawing comparisons to the political approach of Donald Trump in the United States.

Following the victory, Hanson posted a message on social media promising that the party would continue fighting for Australians on issues such as rising living costs, opposition to net-zero climate policies, and reducing migration levels.

Immigration has become an increasingly sensitive political issue in Australia, where approximately half of the nation's 27 million residents were either born overseas or have at least one parent born abroad.

Concerns over housing shortages, infrastructure pressure, and the rising cost of living have fueled debates over migration levels in recent years.

QUICK READ

Investors keep falling for same financial traps

New Delhi

A report highlights Zerodha co-founder Nithin Kamath warning Indian investors about repeated mistakes despite rising financial literacy and easy digital access. In a post on X, Kamath said ULIPs and traditional endowment policies remain poor investments due to high costs and lower returns. He noted investors now have tools and AI platforms to compare returns, yet many still fall for sales pitches. He urged separating insurance and investment, recommending term insurance with mutual funds or equities to avoid hidden charges and improve outcomes. He said this approach helps investors reduce costs avoid mis-selling and build long-term wealth more effectively especially for first-time retail investors in India according to Kamath post

L&T Tech CEO Amit Chadha sees 17.4% pay cut in FY26

New Delhi

Amit Chadha, CEO and Managing Director of L&T Technology Services, saw his total remuneration fall 17.4% to ₹14.96 crore in FY26, according to the company's annual report. His package included ₹5.77 crore salary, ₹2.62 crore commission, ₹1.68 crore variable pay, and ₹4.88 crore from ESOP-related gains. The company noted that the compensation was paid in US dollars but reported in rupee terms. Despite the decline, his pay was 147 times the median employee salary of ₹10.1 lakh. CFO Rajeev Gupta's remuneration also fell 3.6% to ₹3.83 crore. Meanwhile, LTTS reported ₹1,279.2 crore profit and nearly ₹10,996 crore revenue, with strong growth and $850 million in deal bookings for FY26.

Trump Media posts $400 million quarterly loss

New York

Trump Media & Technology Group, parent company of Truth Social owned by Donald Trump, reported a net loss of over $400 million in Q1 2026. Losses surged from $31.7 million a year earlier to $405.8 million, driven largely by $244 million in digital asset and cryptocurrency-related losses. Revenue rose slightly to about $871,000 but was overshadowed by higher costs. Operating expenses reached nearly $295 million, mainly from administration and platform maintenance, while spending on research and development declined. The company's loss per share widened to $1.47 from 14 cents last year, reflecting financial strain and volatility tied to crypto markets and ongoing operational pressures.

Misuse of travel benefits leads to mass dismissals

Mumbai

Air India has dismissed more than 1,000 employees in the past three years for ethical violations, Chief Executive Officer Campbell Wilson said. Speaking at a staff town hall meeting on Friday, he stated that several workers were removed for misusing the airline's employee leisure travel system and other rule violations. Wilson stressed that employees must follow ethical practices even when nobody is watching. He also noted that hundreds of workers lose their jobs annually due to non-compliance with company policies. His remarks came as Air India continues cost-cutting measures while facing financial challenges and operational pressures.

₹20,000 cr mission launched for nuclear energy push

India aims to expand nuclear power capacity significantly by 2047 to strengthen clean energy supply and energy security nationwide.

NEW DELHI

India is preparing for a monumental expansion of its nuclear energy sector, aiming to fill the massive gap in its current power grid.

According to a new report by Morgan Stanley, nuclear energy presently accounts for a mere 2% of India's installed capacity and 3% of its total power generation. This "under-penetration" is now being viewed as a major opportunity for growth.

The government has set ambitious milestones, targeting 22 GW of nuclear power by 2032 and a long-term goal of 100 GW by 2047. To kickstart this, a dedicated Nuclear Energy Mission has been launched with a ₹20,000 crore (Rs 200 billion) fund. This investment focuses on the design and deployment of Small Modular Reactors (SMRs), which are more flexible and scalable than traditional large-scale plants.

A significant shift is also happening in policy. Under the proposed "SHANTI" framework, the government aims to modernize regulations to allow private companies to participate in nuclear projects for the first time. Experts believe that for this strategy to succeed, India must secure its supply chains and strengthen global partnerships. Currently, Canada plays a vital role by supplying uranium under a long-term agreement, while the U.S. is expected to provide critical reactor technology and equipment.

As India positions itself as a global clean energy hub, the move toward nuclear is seen as a "strategic complement" to solar and wind. Unlike renewables, nuclear provides steady "base-load" power without the price swings associated with fossil fuels. While challenges in financing and liability reforms remain, the government's push marks a decisive turn toward a low-carbon future.

Western tech leap May challenge China supply chains

NEW DELHI

China's supply chain dominance may weaken as Western innovations in batteries, EV manufacturing, and autonomous technology rapidly reshape global industrial competitiveness and markets.

China's current dominance in global supply chains, particularly in sectors like new energy vehicles (NEVs), is likely to face increasing pressure as Western countries accelerate technological innovation.

The report notes that China has been leveraging its control over critical mineral inputs and manufacturing capabilities to strengthen its geopolitical influence and disrupt global supply chains when required. This advantage has been particularly visible in the NEV sector, where China currently holds strong production capacity and market influence.

However, emerging technological breakthroughs in the West are expected to challenge this position. Companies such as Tesla are advancing rapidly in areas like next-generation battery technology, high-efficiency manufacturing systems, and autonomous driving. These developments could significantly reshape global competitiveness in the electric vehicle industry.

The article suggests that while China has made progress in multiple high-tech industries, its global competitiveness still lags behind in critical sectors such as semiconductors and robotics. Although these areas hold strategic importance, China has not yet achieved consistent leadership at the global level.

In contrast, the NEV sector remains the only major manufacturing domain where China currently has a strong chance of sustained leadership. However, this advantage may be temporary, as Western innovation continues to accelerate.

One key concern highlighted is the rapid evolution of battery technology, which could redefine cost structures and production efficiency across the industry. Tesla's high-density production systems are also seen as a major competitive threat, potentially reducing manufacturing costs and challenging China's existing advantages.

Additionally, advancements in driverless vehicle technology are expected to play a transformative role in the automotive sector, further intensifying global competition.

The report estimates that within the next three to five years, China's current supply chain advantages could begin to erode unless it achieves significant technological breakthroughs to maintain its position in an increasingly competitive global market.

John Furner hails India's rising startup ecosystem

NEW DELHI

Walmart President and CEO John Furner signaled a massive vote of confidence in India's economy this Sunday, meeting with rising entrepreneurs to discuss the future of digital commerce. During high-level talks, Furner described India as an engine for global growth and expressed excitement over the "ambition" of local founders building high-tech consumer brands. The interaction included founders from sectors such as beauty, pet care, apparel, and food and beverages. The goal was to explore how Indian brands can leverage digital marketplaces like Flipkart to scale domestically and enter international markets. Furner noted that the focus on quality and innovation among Indian startups makes them suitable for Walmart's global supply chain. Flipkart CEO Kalyan Krishnamurthy said entrepreneurs have a deeper understanding of consumer needs and see digital platforms as tools for business growth. Manish Joneja of Walmart Marketplace said emerging brands combine innovation with digital agility. Walmart aims to provide market access and training support programs.

Indian oil companies absorb massive losses to maintain stable fuel prices amid global crude oil price volatility.

Indian oil firms bear heavy cost to stabilize prices

NEW DELHI

State-owned oil companies in India are absorbing massive financial losses to keep domestic fuel prices stable amid global energy volatility triggered by conflict in the Middle East.

Companies such as Indian Oil Corporation, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited, and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited are collectively spending around Rs 1,700 crore per day to shield consumers from sharp increases in petrol, diesel, and cooking gas prices.

According to reports, global crude oil prices have surged significantly over the past ten weeks. While several countries have responded by increasing fuel prices or rationing supplies, India has chosen to maintain retail price stability to protect consumers from inflationary pressure.

This policy, however, has come at a steep cost. In just two and a half months, these oil marketing companies are

estimated to have incurred losses exceeding Rs 1 lakh crore due to what are known as "under-recoveries"—the gap between the actual cost of procurement and the regulated selling price.

Energy experts warn that such sustained losses could place severe financial strain on these public sector firms. While they continue to ensure uninterrupted fuel supply across the country, concerns are rising over their long-term financial health and liquidity.

Despite the mounting pressure, the companies have continued to maintain stable retail pricing, preventing a direct impact on households and transportation costs. This has helped cushion consumers from global shocks but has shifted the burden onto the energy sector.

FACT-FILE

- Oil firms absorb huge losses
- Fuel prices remain unchanged in India
- Global crude crisis drives costs higher
- Under-recoveries strain public sector companies
- Consumers protected from price hikes

Analysts note that India's approach highlights a policy choice prioritising price stability and inflation control over immediate cost pass-through. However, they caution that prolonged under-recoveries may eventually require government intervention or policy adjustments to ensure the sustainability of the fuel distribution system.

Delhi Metro, Airtel Payments Bank launch interoperable RuPay cards

NEW DELHI

In a major move to streamline urban travel, the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) has joined forces with Airtel Payments Bank to launch co-branded RuPay 'On-The-Go' cards.

This new payment solution is powered by the National Common Mobility Card (NCMC) technology, fulfilling the government's "One Nation, One Card" vision.

The partnership was officially unveiled at the DMRC headquarters by Managing Director Vikas Kumar and Airtel Payments Bank CEO Anubrata Biswas. Unlike traditional Delhi Metro cards, which only work within the capital's rail network, these new open-loop cards can be used for metros, buses, and other transit systems across India.

A unified transit experience

Dr. Vikas Kumar highlighted that DMRC is consistently looking for innovative ways to boost passenger convenience. "This partnership allows for seamless travel not just within the Delhi Metro, but across multiple systems in the country," he stated.

Anubrata Biswas echoed this sentiment, noting that the initiative merges banking and transit to simplify daily commutes. While the new NCMC cards will be heavily promoted, the DMRC confirmed that existing metro cards will continue to function normally for the time being, ensuring a smooth transition for the millions of people who use the network daily.

KEY FEATURES OF THE CARD

- **Dual functionality:** Available as both Debit cards and Prepaid (PPI-MTS) instruments.
- **Interoperability:** Works across all NCMC-enabled transit networks nationwide.
- **Digital top-ups:** Users can recharge instantly via the DMRC or Airtel apps, eliminating the need to stand in long queues at station kiosks.
- **Widespread availability:** The cards will be rolled out at all DMRC stations within the next 10 days.

India's hospital sector enters decade-long growth cycle

NEW DELHI

India's healthcare landscape is undergoing a massive transformation, shifting from a focus on high-cost treatments to a high-volume growth model. A new report by brokerage firm Mirae Asset Sharekhan suggests that the hospital sector is entering a sustained "expansion cycle" that will last well beyond 2030, driven by a desperate need for more hospital beds and a surge in digital health technology.

SCALE OF SECTOR'S GROWTH

- **Market value:** The hospital market reached $193.4 billion in FY25 and is projected to skyrocket to $364.6 billion by 2034.
- **The bed gap:** India currently has only 1.3 beds per 1,000 people, far below the global median of 2.9. This "underpenetration" means that even as hospitals build thousands of new beds, they are being filled almost immediately.
- **Utilization:** Leading chains like Apollo Hospitals are already seeing occupancy rates near 70%, a clear sign that demand is outpacing supply.

A stronger financial foundation

Unlike previous expansion phases that left hospitals deeply in debt, the current cycle is backed by strong balance sheets. After five years of focusing on efficiency and reducing debt, hospital chains have cut their leverage significantly. FY25 marks the start of a "meaningful capex" (capital expenditure) phase, where hospitals are finally ready to spend big on new buildings and medical tech without risking financial ruin.

While challenges like talent shortages and regulatory price caps remain, the report concludes that the sector offers a rare combination of necessity and scale. For investors and patients alike, the next decade promises a more integrated, tech-savvy, and accessible healthcare system across the country.

What is driving the boom?

- **Rising insurance:** Private insurance now accounts for up to 43% of revenue for major chains like Max Healthcare, moving away from "out-of-pocket" payments.
- **AI revolution:** Hospitals are aggressively adopting AI diagnostics and teleconsultations to increase efficiency and reach patients in smaller towns.
- **Government schemes:** Initiatives like Ayushman Bharat are opening doors in Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities, significantly increasing patient volume.
- **Medical tourism:** High-margin revenue from international patients continues to be a major profit driver for city-based hospital hubs.

PROFIT SURGE

IAG reports strong profit despite fuel pressures

LONDON

International Airlines Group (IAG), the parent company of British Airways and Iberia, reported a sharp rise in first-quarter profits, showcasing resilience in the face of rising fuel costs and geopolitical uncertainty linked to the West Asia conflict.

The airline group posted a 77% jump in profit, reaching 351 million euros for the quarter. The performance exceeded market expectations, driven by strong passenger demand, disciplined cost management, and improved operational efficiency across its major airlines.

Despite the positive results, IAG acknowledged significant headwinds from rising jet fuel prices, which have surged due to ongoing tensions in the Middle East. Fuel remains one of the largest operating costs for airlines, and recent global disruptions have increased volatility in pricing.

According to the company, robust travel demand across both transatlantic and European routes helped offset part of the increased cost burden. Business travel recovery and sustained leisure travel demand also contributed to higher load factors and improved revenue per seat.

IAG highlighted that its cost-control measures, including fleet optimization and better capacity management, played a crucial role in maintaining profitability. The group also benefited from its diversified portfolio of airlines operating across different markets, which helped balance regional fluctuations in demand.

Industry analysts note that while the profit surge is encouraging, the aviation sector remains vulnerable to external shocks such as fuel price spikes, currency fluctuations, and geopolitical instability. Airlines across the globe are closely monitoring crude oil trends as they directly impact operational margins.

Looking ahead, IAG said it remains cautiously optimistic about sustained demand growth but warned that fuel cost volatility could continue to affect financial performance in the coming quarters.

The company reaffirmed its commitment to long-term investment in efficiency, sustainability initiatives, and fleet modernization to strengthen competitiveness in an increasingly uncertain global aviation environment.

MOTHERS: The Silent Strength behind Every Family, Dream and Generation

A mother's love shapes lives with sacrifice, strength, warmth, care, and endless devotion.

Mother's Day, celebrated across the world on the second Sunday of May, is a special occasion dedicated to honouring mothers and motherhood. It is a day to express gratitude for the unconditional love, sacrifices and guidance that mothers provide throughout life. From nurturing children with affection to standing as pillars of strength during difficult times, mothers play an irreplaceable role in every family and society.

The celebration of Mother's Day has evolved into a global tradition where people thank their mothers through gifts, greetings, family gatherings and heartfelt messages. Though the methods of celebration may differ across cultures, the emotion behind the day remains universal — appreciation for a mother's endless care and dedication.

In India, Mother's Day is observed with growing enthusiasm, especially among young people who use the occasion to spend quality time with their mothers and acknowledge their contributions. Schools, colleges and social organisations also conduct programmes and activities highlighting the importance of mothers in shaping responsible individuals and strong communities.

Beyond celebrations, the day also serves as a reminder of the challenges many mothers face, including balancing work and family responsibilities. It underlines the need for greater respect, support and equal opportunities for women in society.

As families come together to celebrate the occasion, Mother's Day continues to remind people that a mother's love is one of life's greatest blessings — selfless, enduring and beyond comparison.

WORLD MOTHER'S DAY WISHES

"The Sky-Like Love in Your Palms, Amma"

A mother is the one who gives her children a love as boundless and pure as the sky – a love so vast it cannot be fully seen, understood, measured, or matched. She gives it freely, through her own hands.

She battles between life and death to give us birth. To nurture and raise her children, she pours out all her strength and beauty. She sets aside countless personal desires and dedicates herself completely to the all-round growth and upliftment of her children. In doing so, she often forgets her own self-care. After giving birth, she loses interest in tending to her own physical and mental changes, her meals, her sleep, her comfort, or her appearance.A mother's concern for her child is so immense that even in the middle of a crowd, the moment her baby is hungry, she becomes a mother first and a woman second. Regardless of any uncomfortable surroundings, she feeds her child without hesitation. It is the greatness of a mother that she celebrates the most painful day of her life as our birthday. After giving us life, she holds the bond with her child above all other relationships, caring endlessly. She sheds tears of joy and blesses us when she sees her children succeed. To you, Amma, who gave us an identity and existence on this earth, and who is the reason behind our good health, fortune, name, and fame today – we bow to you.

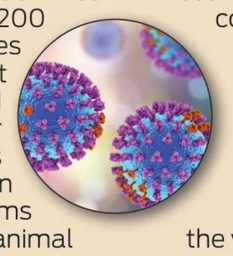
Adapting with Awareness: Thriving in the Age of AI

Adapting with Awareness: Thriving in the Age of AI We are living in a time of remarkable transformation. Artificial intelligence is no longer a distant concept—it is quietly becoming part of everyday life, influencing how we work, learn, and make decisions. Moments like these often bring a mix of curiosity and caution. Yet, they also carry something far more valuable: the opportunity to grow. Every major shift—whether the arrival of electricity, the internet, or smartphones—has reshaped human life. AI is simply the next step in that journey. What makes this phase unique is not just the speed of change, but the space it creates for individuals to rethink how they engage with the world. Rather than viewing AI as something to compete with, it can be approached as something to collaborate with. When used thoughtfully, it can enhance productivity, simplify complex tasks, and create more room for creativity and meaningful work. At the same time, as external systems become more powerful, the importance of inner clarity becomes even greater. Indian philosophical traditions, including the teachings of Adi Shankaracharya, have long emphasised the value of recognising a deeper sense of self—an inner steadiness that remains consistent even as circumstances change. This understanding does not call for stepping away from progress. Instead, it offers a way to engage with it more effectively—with balance, awareness, and perspective. In practical terms, adapting to this new era can begin with simple shifts: • Viewing AI as a tool for learning and improvement • Developing skills that combine human insight with technology • Staying curious and open to change rather than resistant • Creating small moments in the day to pause, reflect, and reset These are not dramatic changes, but they form a strong and steady foundation. The future will not belong only to those who understand technology, but to those who can balance it with clarity of thought, adaptability, and a grounded sense of self. In learning to hold both—the pace of innovation and the steadiness within—we may find that this transformation is not only reshaping the world around us, but quietly refining the way we live within it.

By: PRADIVYA NAMBIAR

VIRUSES AROUND THE WORLD AND HOW THEY AFFECT US

They are smaller than bacteria, smaller than a grain of sand, smaller than almost anything we can conceive; yet viruses have shaped the course of human history more profoundly than any army, empire, or ideology. From the Black Death-era confusion between bacterial plague and viral disease to the COVID-19 pandemic that brought the modern world to a standstill, viruses have always been silent companions to our civilization. Today, scientists have identified more than 200 species of viruses known to infect humans, and that number only grows as we encroach on new ecosystems and disturb animal habitats that were once far beyond our reach. Understanding viruses; what they are, how they spread, and why they matter; is no longer a concern reserved only for doctors and researchers. In our interconnected world, a viral outbreak in one corner of the globe can reach every continent within weeks. This article takes a journey through the viral landscape of our planet: exploring the major families of viruses, the damage they cause, and the remarkable ways humanity has learned and continues to learn to fight back.



WHAT IS A VIRUS, EXACTLY?

A virus is not quite a living organism. It lacks the cellular machinery to reproduce on its own. Instead, it hijacks the cells of a host organism, using that cell's molecular tools to copy itself thousands of times over before bursting outward to infect more cells. Viruses consist of genetic material either DNA or RNA wrapped in a protein coat called a capsid, and sometimes surrounded by a lipid envelope stolen from a previous host cell.

This stripped-down design makes viruses extraordinarily adaptable. Because they replicate using the host cell's machinery, errors creep in mutations that, over time, can make a virus more contagious, more lethal, or capable of jumping between species. That biological flexibility is precisely what makes them so difficult to control.

THE GREAT VIRAL THREATS OF HISTORY

INFLUENZA: The Seasonal Shapeshifter

Few viruses have caused as much death and disruption as influenza. The 1918 Spanish Flu pandemic infected an estimated 500 million people — roughly one-third of the world's population at the time — and killed somewhere between 50 and 100 million. It remains one of the deadliest events in recorded human history, surpassing the casualties of World War I in a fraction of the time. What makes influenza so dangerous is its remarkable capacity for genetic change. Through a process called antigenic drift, small mutations accumulate in the viral genome over time, allowing the virus to evade immunity built from previous infections. Through a more dramatic process called antigenic shift, two different influenza viruses can swap entire gene segments inside a single host, producing a completely novel strain against which no one has immunity. This is the mechanism that creates pandemic influenza — the kind the world dreads each season.Seasonal influenza still kills between 290,000 and 650,000 people globally every year. Vaccine developers must essentially reformulate the flu shot annually, predicting which strains will dominate the coming season — a scientific guessing game with enormous stakes.

HIV/AIDS: Rewiring the Immune System

When the first cases of a mysterious immune deficiency syndrome appeared in the early 1980s, no one could have predicted how profoundly the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) would reshape global public health, social policy, and medical research. HIV attacks CD4+ T cells, the very immune cells responsible for coordinating the body's defense against infection. As the virus gradually depletes these cells, the immune system collapses — leaving the body vulnerable to opportunistic infections and cancers that a healthy immune system would easily repel.

Since the beginning of the epidemic, approximately 40 million people have died of AIDS-related illnesses. Today, around 39 million people worldwide are living with HIV. Sub-Saharan Africa bears the heaviest burden, accounting for roughly two-thirds of all HIV infections globally.

The development of antiretroviral therapy (ART) in the 1990s transformed HIV from a death sentence into a manageable chronic condition for those with access to medication. But access remains deeply unequal, and stigma continues to prevent millions from seeking testing and treatment. A definitive cure remains elusive, though recent research into gene-editing technologies like CRISPR has opened promising new avenues.

Ebola: The Hemorrhagic Horror

Ebola virus disease is one of the most frightening viral illnesses known to medicine. With case fatality rates ranging from 25% to 90% depending on the outbreak and available care, Ebola causes severe hemorrhagic fever — patients suffer internal and external bleeding, organ failure, and overwhelming shock. The virus is transmitted through direct contact with the bodily fluids of an infected person, making outbreaks especially dangerous in clinical settings where infection control is difficult.

Ebola was first identified in 1976 near the Ebola River in what is now the Democratic Republic of Congo. The 2014–2016 West Africa outbreak was the largest in history, infecting more than 28,000 people and killing over 11,000. It overwhelmed fragile healthcare systems in Guinea, Sierra Leone, and Liberia, revealing the catastrophic consequences of chronic underinvestment in public health infrastructure.

In 2019, the first Ebola vaccine (Ervebo) received regulatory approval — a landmark achievement. But periodic outbreaks in Central Africa demonstrate that Ebola remains an ongoing threat, particularly where healthcare access and community trust are limited.

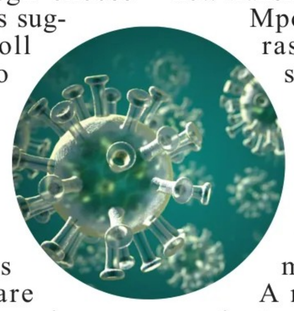
The Modern Pandemic Era

COVID-19: The World Redefined

In December 2019, reports emerged from Wuhan, China, of a cluster of pneumonia cases linked to a novel coronavirus. Within months, SARS-CoV-2 — the virus responsible for COVID-19 — had spread to every corner of the world.

The World Health Organization declared a pandemic in March 2020.

COVID-19 has killed more than 7 million people officially, though excess mortality studies suggest the true toll may be three to five times higher. Beyond the immediate deaths, the pandemic exposed and deepened inequalities — in healthcare access, in economic resilience, in digital connectivity for education, and in the mental health support systems people could access. Long COVID, a condition in which symptoms persist for months or years after the initial infection, has affected tens of millions of survivors, imposing enormous social and economic costs.



Mpox: An Emerging Concern

Once considered a rare disease primarily affecting people in central and west Africa, mpox (formerly known as monkeypox) captured global attention in 2022 when it spread to over 100 countries outside Africa, infecting tens of thousands of people. The outbreak highlighted how quickly a virus with limited human-to-human transmission history can adapt to new transmission networks.

Mpox causes fever, rash, and painful skin lesions. While most infections are self-limiting, the disease can be severe in immunocompromised individuals. A new, more virulent strain (clade Ib) emerged in the DRC in 2023–2024, prompting the WHO to again declare a public health emergency of international concern.

REGIONAL VIRAL BURDENS

Dengue and Mosquito-Borne Viruses in the Tropics

Dengue fever affects an estimated 390 million people annually, making it the most prevalent mosquito-borne viral disease in the world. Transmitted by Aedes aegypti mosquitoes, dengue is endemic across tropical and subtropical regions in Southeast Asia, Latin America, and parts of Africa. Severe dengue can cause plasma leakage, organ impairment, and hemorrhage — and there is no specific antiviral treatment.

Climate change is expanding the geographic range of mosquito vectors, bringing dengue and related viruses like Zika and chikungunya into regions that previously had no exposure. Zika's devastating association with microcephaly in newborns — confirmed during the 2015–2016 outbreak in the Americas — shocked the world and underscored how new viral threats can emerge with alarming speed.

Rotavirus and Childhood Mortality

In wealthy countries, rotavirus is a familiar if unpleasant childhood illness — a few days of diarrhea and vomiting, soon resolved. In low-income countries without access to oral rehydration therapy and vaccines, rotavirus kills hundreds of thousands of children under five every year. Despite the existence of effective vaccines since 2006, inequitable access continues to make this one of the leading causes of childhood diarrheal death globally.

How Viruses Affect Us Beyond Direct Disease

The impact of viruses extends far beyond the immediate illness they cause. Viral infections are implicated in approximately 15–20% of all human cancers. Human Papillomavirus (HPV) causes virtually all cases of cervical cancer — the fourth most common cancer in women worldwide. Hepatitis B and C viruses are the primary causes of liver cancer, responsible for hundreds of thousands of deaths annually. Epstein-Barr virus is linked to several lymphomas and other malignancies.

Justina Mikulskytė clinches Tumakuru Open title after Pawlikowska retires injured

Lithuanian top seed secured ITF crown after injury halted final contest prematurely Sunday

TUMAKURU

Top seed Justina Mikulskytė won the ITF W35 Tumakuru Open women's singles title on Sunday after second seed Zuzanna Pawlikowska retired injured during the final at the Tumakuru District Tennis Association courts.

The much-anticipated summit clash between the tournament's top two seeds came to an unfortunate end after just one game as Pawlikowska was unable to continue because of a shoulder injury that had already troubled her earlier in the tournament.

The Polish player had withdrawn from the doubles final on Saturday owing to the same injury but still chose to compete in the singles final despite discomfort. However, after attempting to continue, she was forced to retire, disappointing spectators who had gathered in large numbers expecting a competitive contest. For Mikulskytė, the victory marked the eighth ITF singles title of her career and added another major achievement to an impressive season on the international circuit. Along with the trophy, the Lithuanian player received prize money of USD 4,860 and earned 35 valuable WTA ranking points.

Pawlikowska, despite the injury setback, finished runner-up and received USD 2,637 along with 23 WTA ranking points for her performances during the tournament.

Speaking during the closing ceremony, Karnataka Home Minister G. Parameshwara reiterated his commitment to promoting sports among youngsters and developing Tumakuru into a major sporting hub.

Parameshwara, who contributed USD 30,000 towards the tournament prize money, said encouraging youth participation in sports was essential for building a healthier and drug-free society. He added that efforts were underway to create better infrastructure and sporting opportunities in Tumakuru.

Several officials and dignitaries attended the event, including representatives from the All India Tennis Association (AITA), Karnataka State Lawn Tennis Association (KSLTA), district administration and tournament organisers.

In the final result, Justina Mikulskytė was declared winner after leading 1-0 when Pawlikowska retired hurt from the match.

India women archers edge China in thrilling shoot-off to clinch WC gold

Composed Indian trio defeated hosts China after dramatic shoot-off finish in Shanghai final.

SHANGHAI

India's women's recurve archery team produced a remarkable performance under pressure to defeat hosts China and win the gold medal at the Archery World Cup Stage 2 on Sunday. The trio of Deepika Kumari, Ankita Bhakat and teenage sensation Kumkum Mohod overcame a spirited Chinese challenge in a tense shoot-off to secure a 5-4 victory in Shanghai.

The final remained evenly contested throughout as both teams finished the regulation sets locked at 4-4. India, however, held their nerve in the decisive shoot-off, scoring 28 against China's 26 to seal the title in front of a vocal home crowd.

The triumph marked India's first women's recurve team World Cup gold medal since 2021 and came just a day after compound archer Sahil Jadhav won bronze, taking India's medal tally at the tournament to two.

The gold-winning campaign became even more special because India had defeated powerhouse South Korea in the semifinals. South Korea remains the most successful nation in Olympic archery history, making the victory a significant achievement for the Indian side.

Veteran archer Deepika once again played a leading role for the team. A member of India's World Cup-winning squads in Guatemala City and Paris in 2021, she claimed her seventh World Cup team gold medal since 2010. Throughout the final, she guided and motivated her younger teammates during crucial moments.

India started strongly by narrowly winning the opening set 54-53, with Deepika delivering successive perfect 10s. China bounced back in the second set, levelling the contest after Deepika missed a crucial final arrow. The hosts then moved ahead 4-2 after edging the third set.

Facing defeat in the fourth set, India stayed alive after Chinese archer Yu Qi failed to convert a match-winning opportunity.

The contest then moved into a dramatic shoot-off where Ankita opened with a 9, Kumkum followed with a superb 10, and Deepika calmly sealed victory with a final arrow scoring 9.

The victory provided a major boost for Indian archery ahead of upcoming international competitions.

Daniel Dubois survives early knockdowns to reclaim heavyweight world title

MANCHESTER

Daniel Dubois produced a remarkable comeback performance to defeat Fabio Wardley and capture the WBO heavyweight title in Manchester, becoming a two-time heavyweight world champion.

Dubois overcame a disastrous start, having been knocked down just 10 seconds into the contest after Wardley landed a powerful overhand right at the Co-op Live Arena. Wardley floored him again in the third round, leaving many expecting the fight to end early.

However, the former IBF champion showed tremendous resilience and gradually turned the fight around with relentless pressure and heavy right-hand punches that caused visible swelling and cuts on Wardley's face.

The referee finally stopped the contest early in the 11th round after Wardley absorbed a sustained barrage of punches without adequately defending himself. The victory improved Dubois' professional record to 23 wins and three defeats, with 22 knockouts.

"I know I've got heart. I'm a warrior in there," Dubois said after reclaiming world championship status. "What a great fight and what a battle. I'm No. 1 again."

The defeat marked the first loss of Wardley's professional career. The British heavyweight entered the bout unbeaten with a record of 20 wins and one draw and was making the first defence of his WBO title.

Despite the defeat, Dubois praised his opponent for his toughness and determination throughout the contest. "He's a durable guy and a great warrior. It was an honour to share the ring with him," he said.

Dubois had previously lost his IBF heavyweight belt to Oleksandr Usyk via knockout at Wembley Stadium last year. The latest victory has now revived speculation over another potential blockbuster showdown in the heavyweight division.

Rising British heavyweight Moses Itauma, who was present ringside, could emerge as Dubois' next challenger after recent calls for him to become the mandatory WBO contender.

Meanwhile, promoter Frank Warren confirmed that the fight contract includes a rematch clause, leaving open the possibility of a second Dubois-Wardley clash in the near future.

The undercard also produced a major upset as Zak Chelli stunned Cuban fighter David Morrell with a 10th-round stoppage victory in the light heavyweight division.

Sean Strickland regains UFC middleweight crown

NEWARK

Sean Strickland reclaimed the UFC middleweight championship after edging past Khamzat Chimaev by split decision in the main event of UFC 328 at the Prudential Center.

In a contest overshadowed by heated exchanges and controversial pre-fight remarks, Strickland emerged victorious after five closely fought rounds. Two judges scored the bout 48-47 in favour of Strickland, while the third judge awarded the same scoreline to Chimaev.

Despite intense hostility leading into the fight, both fighters maintained discipline inside the octagon. Strickland, who had previously won the middleweight belt in 2023 before losing it during his first title defence, became only the second former champion to regain the UFC's 185-pound title.

Following the victory, Strickland acknowledged that he had gone "too far" with some of his remarks during the build-up and apologised to fans offended by the pre-fight controversy.

Chimaev, fighting under the United Arab Emirates banner, suffered the first defeat of his professional MMA career after entering the contest unbeaten in 16 fights.

The co-main event saw Joshua Van successfully defend his UFC flyweight championship with a dominant stoppage victory over Japan's Tatsuro Taira.

Van overwhelmed Taira with aggressive striking and superior boxing before the referee stopped the fight midway through the fifth round. The brutal encounter left Taira bloodied and unable to respond effectively to Van's relentless attacks.

The bout made history as the first UFC title fight contested between two fighters born in the 2000s and also the first championship contest between two Asian competitors in UFC history.

Spieth trails Scheffler in race for career Grand Slam glory

ARONIMINK

Jordan Spieth and Scottie Scheffler are both one major away from completing the career Grand Slam, but their paths look very different.

Spieth, once a teenage prodigy, is chasing history at the PGA Championship with his 10th attempt at the missing piece, struggling for form after wrist surgery.

Meanwhile, Scheffler, now world No. 1, appears closer to joining golf's elite club after multiple major wins and dominant consistency.

While Spieth hopes for a turnaround, Scheffler's rapid rise has shifted expectations, with many seeing him as the likelier candidate to complete the Grand Slam first in upcoming majors.

Manchester City keep title race alive with commanding victory over Brentford

MANCHESTER

Manchester City kept the Premier League title race alive with an impressive 3-0 victory over Brentford at the Etihad Stadium, reducing leaders Arsenal's advantage at the top of the table to just two points.

Second-half goals from Jeremy Doku, Erling Haaland and Omar Marmoush secured a crucial win for City, who now have 74 points from 35 matches with three games remaining this season.

Despite the victory, City still require Arsenal to drop points in one of their remaining fixtures to revive hopes of retaining the league title. Arsenal were scheduled to face relegation-threatened West Ham United on Sunday.

City dominated possession and attacking opportunities throughout the match but Brentford defended resolutely before Doku finally broke the deadlock in the 60th minute. The Belgian winger cut inside from the left flank and curled a superb right-footed strike

into the top corner, leaving goalkeeper Caoimhin Kelleher with no chance.

Haaland doubled the lead after 75 minutes with a scrappy but important finish. Following a blocked attempt, the Norwegian striker reacted quickly to back-heel the ball into the net for his 26th league goal of the campaign.

Marmoush sealed the victory deep into stoppage time after collecting a precise pass from Haaland and calmly finishing into the far corner.

Speaking after the match, Haaland insisted City remained focused on the title race. "If you play for Manchester City, you think about titles every single day," he said.

City extended their unbeaten Premier League run since January and continued piling pressure on Arsenal in what has become another dramatic title battle.

Brentford's defeat dealt a setback to their hopes of securing European qualification next season. The visitors remained eighth in the standings, four points behind the top six positions.

The hosts registered 25 shots compared to Brentford's four and created several more opportunities, with Phil Foden forcing Kelleher into an excellent save during the first half.

The match also witnessed heated moments, including Brentford appeals for red cards and a late penalty claim that was rejected after a VAR review.

SC Bengaluru's promotion hopes dashed after heavy defeat to Delhi FC

Bengaluru side suffered crushing defeat as Delhi FC tightened grip atop standings.

BENGALURU

SC Bengaluru's hopes of securing promotion in the I-League 2 came to a disappointing end after suffering a crushing 5-1 defeat against Delhi FC in Mohali.

A sensational first-half hat-trick from league top-scorer Himanshu Jangra completely dismantled the Bengaluru side and left them with no realistic chance of finishing in the promotion spots with only one round remaining in the competition.

Delhi FC dominated proceedings from the opening whistle and took the lead in the 12th minute through Jangra, who continued his impressive form this season. The striker doubled the advantage in the 21st minute before completing his hat-trick just before halftime in the 44th minute, putting Delhi firmly in control of the contest.

SC Bengaluru struggled to contain Delhi's attacking movement and were repeatedly caught out defensively. Despite the setback, the visitors showed brief signs of resistance in the second half when Devadath S scored in the 62nd minute to reduce the deficit.

However, any hopes of a comeback quickly disappeared as Delhi FC regained complete control of the match. Wungshung Lungleng added

the fourth goal in the 81st minute before Akash Tirkey sealed the emphatic victory deep into stoppage time.

The defeat left SC Bengaluru in sixth place with eight points from seven matches, ending their promotion ambitions for the season.

Meanwhile, the result significantly boosted Delhi FC's chances of qualification as they climbed back to the top of the table with 16 points. FC Bengaluru United slipped to second place with 14 points but still remained in contention for promotion ahead of the final round.

FC Bengaluru United will now face bottom-placed GMSC in their final league fixture, while Delhi FC will take on United Kolkata in what promises to be a decisive clash in the race for promotion.

Earlier, FC Bengaluru United had briefly moved to the top of the standings after registering a commanding 4-1 victory over Sporting Club de Goa at the Dravid-Padukone Centre of Excellence in Bengaluru.

'I regret bringing Messi to Kolkata': Satadru Dutta blames officials for fiasco

KOLKATA

Satadru Dutta has blamed police, administration and political interference for the chaotic Lionel Messi event at Salt Lake Stadium in Kolkata, saying he regrets bringing Lionel Messi to the city after the fiasco that unfolded during the much-hyped tour.

Dutta said all security protocols were followed, including Z and Z-plus arrangements, but claimed unauthorised entries inside Salt Lake Stadium derailed the planned show flow despite multiple coordination meetings with authorities.

He alleged that VIP and non-accredited individuals entered the pitch area, surrounding Lionel Messi and disrupting security, while questioning why police failed to enforce accreditation rules agreed in advance.

Dutta further said the event turned controversial after political figures reportedly entered without being part of official show protocol, adding that Messi's management expressed concern over crowd control and safety.

He also recalled his 38-day custody, claiming he was made a scapegoat despite having obtained all necessary permissions and approvals from relevant authorities, while insisting the investigation was not impartial.

Comparing Kolkata with other Indian cities, he said events in Mumbai, Delhi and Hyderabad were better managed due strict adherence to security protocols and controlled access.

Ultimately, Dutta said he deeply regrets bringing Lionel Messi to Salt Lake Stadium given the chaos, reputation damage, and security risks, calling it a lesson in event management and accountability. He maintained that nearly 20 coordination meetings were held with police and administrative officials before the event, and that accreditation cards were issued strictly based on approved zones and security clearances.

Satadru Dutta blames police, administration, political interference for Messi Kolkata fiasco event

However, he alleged that pressure was exerted for additional accreditation passes, which he refused, leading to tensions with certain political representatives and event authorities.

Dutta said the situation worsened when Lionel Messi and his management decided to leave the venue prematurely, citing security concerns, which left fans disappointed and the event abruptly halted midway.

He also confirmed plans to pursue legal action for defamation and damages, stating that the incident had significantly affected his reputation as a sports event organiser in India, and called for an impartial judicial probe into the entire episode.

CSK edge LSG in thriller to boost IPL 2026 playoff hopes

Chennai Super Kings defeat Lucknow Super Giants in thrilling IPL clash match

CHENNAI

Chennai Super Kings defeated Lucknow Super Giants by five wickets in a high-scoring IPL 2026 encounter at the MA Chidambaram Stadium on Sunday, chasing down 204 with two balls to spare after a dramatic finish. Urvil Patel's explosive knock set the tone early as CSK dominated the powerplay, while LSG's bowlers struggled with dropped catches and inconsistent lines under pressure. Earlier LSG posted 203 for 8, powered by Josh Inglis' aggressive batting and Rishabh Pant's quick cameo, but CSK's bowling attack staged a strong comeback in the middle overs. Ruturaj Gaikwad anchored the chase before Shivam Dube and Dewald Brevis accelerated in the final overs, ensuring CSK stayed ahead despite a brief LSG fightback.

Key moments included multiple dropped catches by LSG fielders, a costly missed review, and a flurry of sixes that swung momentum decisively towards CSK. With this win, CSK strengthens its playoff hopes while LSG is officially eliminated from IPL 2026 contention after suffering its eighth loss in eleven matches. Both teams will now look to regroup, with CSK aiming to climb further up the table and LSG playing for pride in remaining fixtures. Urvil Patel was the standout performer with a blistering half-century, while Sanju Samson and Ruturaj Gaikwad provided solid starts that kept CSK ahead of the required rate throughout the innings. LSG's innings featured brilliant spells from Mitchell Marsh and Josh Inglis, but their bowling unit failed to defend a competitive total on a batting-friendly pitch.

Bowlers must evolve and develop new skills to survive T20 cricket: Shane Bond

Ultra-aggressive batting in modern T20 cricket demands smarter, adaptable bowling strategies from players.

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

Former New Zealand pacer Shane Bond believes bowlers must constantly reinvent themselves and develop wider skillsets to survive in modern T20 cricket, where aggressive batting and soaring scoring rates are increasingly dominating the game.

Bond admitted that bowlers across teams are struggling to adapt to batting-friendly conditions and relentless attacking approaches from batters.

The Royals conceded 229 runs in the match, marking the seventh occasion this season that they allowed opponents to cross the 200-run mark. Bond, who serves as Rajasthan Royals' bowling coach, said bowlers need to think differently instead of repeating the same methods despite poor outcomes.

He stressed that success in T20 cricket now depends heavily on decision-making, execution and preparation. According to Bond, bowlers must spend more time analysing batters' scoring zones and develop flexibility in their bowling styles and tactics.

The former fast bowler said modern batters have expanded their range of shots significantly, regularly using scoops, reverse hits and uppercuts to unsettle bowlers. To counter this, bowlers too must evolve by learning new angles, varying run-ups and becoming effective from different sides of the wicket.

Bond observed that teams repeatedly using predictable bowling patterns are often punished severely in the IPL, where batters attack fearlessly from the outset. He added that bowlers capable of adapting quickly and mastering multiple variations could elevate themselves into match-winners and highly sought-after T20 stars.The ongoing IPL season has witnessed a surge in high-scoring matches and successful 200-plus chases, raising fresh debate over whether bowlers are being left behind in the entertainment-driven format. Bond, however, believes the challenge also presents a major opportunity for bowlers willing to innovate and expand their game.

CSK urged fans to avoid political banners during Vijay's swearing-in day match

CH NEWS, , CHENNAI

Chennai Super Kings had issued a special appeal to fans ahead of their IPL 2026 clash against Lucknow Super Giants at the M.A. Chidambaram Stadium, requesting supporters to avoid bringing political banners, flags or hoardings into the venue.

The appeal had come as the high-profile IPL match coincided with the swearing-in ceremony of Vijay, president of Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam, who took oath as the new Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.

Recognising the massive fan following enjoyed by both CSK and Vijay across Tamil Nadu and the country, the franchise urged supporters to keep the focus entirely on cricket during the game at Chepauk.

In a message posted on social media platform X, CSK had requested fans to enjoy the match in the spirit of "Yellove" and refrain from displaying material associated with any political party or individual.

Vijay's rise from cinema superstar to Chief Minister had become one of the most talked-about political developments in Tamil Nadu after his party secured 108 seats in the recent Assembly elections. The actor-turned-politician reportedly held multiple rounds of discussions with allies and met Governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar before staking claim to form the government.

Meanwhile, on the cricket front, Chennai Super Kings had entered the match needing a victory to keep their playoff hopes alive.

IPL's batting boom leaves bowlers struggling for relevance in high-scoring tournament

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

The ongoing edition of the Indian Premier League (IPL) has once again highlighted cricket's growing tilt towards batters, with massive totals, fearless strokeplay and flat pitches turning bowlers into mere supporting characters in the tournament.

Scores above 200, once considered match-winning totals, have now become routine. Teams are not only posting huge totals regularly but are also chasing them down with remarkable ease. After 50 matches this season, there have already been 42 totals exceeding 200, while successful 200-plus chases have risen sharply compared to previous editions.

Cricket experts and former players believe a major reason behind this shift is the Impact Player rule, which allows teams to strengthen batting line-ups further. The additional batting cushion has encouraged players to adopt aggressive approaches from the start, knowing there is enough firepower waiting lower down the order.Royal Challengers Bengaluru batter Devdutt Padikkal recently admitted that the presence of powerful finishers gives top-order batters the freedom to attack without fear of collapse. This fearless style, combined with flat pitches offering little help to bowlers, has significantly altered the balance of the game.

Legendary spinner Muttiah Muralitharan observed that even great bowlers like Shane Warne would have struggled under current conditions. He noted that while spinners might still take wickets occasionally, batters would continue scoring heavily because of batting-friendly surfaces.

Statistics also reveal the declining role of spinners this season. Their share of overs and wickets has reduced noticeably, while economy rates have increased due to relentless attacking cricket.Muralitharan said producing fairer pitches could restore balance between bat and ball, but admitted entertainment-driven T20 cricket now prioritises boundaries and high scores. While the batting spectacle excites fans, many believe cricket risks losing its traditional contest between bat and ball if bowlers continue to be pushed into irrelevance.

IPL experience has improved my all-format batting, says Jacob Bethell

CH NEWS, RAIPUR

Young England batter Jacob Bethell believes his experience in the Indian Premier League with Royal Challengers Bengaluru has significantly helped improve his batting across all formats of the game.

The 22-year-old, currently in his second year with the franchise, has featured in only six matches so far and earned opportunities this season mainly because of the injury to fellow England player Phil Salt.Bethell dismissed suggestions that he would have benefited more by playing County cricket instead of spending time on the bench in the IPL.Former England captain Alastair Cook had earlier remarked that Bethell should focus on County cricket for Warwickshire rather than remaining a reserve player in the IPL. However, former England batter Kevin Pietersen defended the youngster, stating that training and sharing dressing rooms with elite international players would aid his development.

Bethell said the IPL offers exposure to some of the best cricketers in the world and provides invaluable learning opportunities that cannot easily be replicated elsewhere. He added that interacting with experienced players, observing different approaches and handling pressure situations have contributed positively to his growth as a batter.

The left-hander maintained that being part of such a high-profile tournament would only strengthen his game rather than hinder his progress.Meanwhile, Sherfane Rutherford of Mumbai Indians stressed the importance of quickly assessing conditions in Raipur, which is hosting an IPL match after a long gap. Rutherford said batters must understand the nature of the wicket early and adjust their approach accordingly to maximise scoring opportunities in unfamiliar conditions.

Closely fought batting and bowling charts keeping IPL race thrilling until concluding league matches.

Tight Orange and Purple Cap races add excitement to IPL 2026 season

CH NEWS, CHENNAI

The race for the Orange and Purple Caps in IPL 2026 has emerged as one of the most exciting storylines of the tournament, with no single player managing to dominate either batting or bowling charts as the league stage approaches its final phase.

Unlike previous seasons where one or two standout performers often surged ahead early, this year's competition has witnessed constant changes in rankings, keeping fans and franchises closely engaged with every match.

Heinrich Klaasen of Sunrisers Hyderabad currently leads the Orange Cap standings with 494 runs from 11 matches. His teammate Abhishek Sharma follows closely with 475 runs, while K. L. Rahul of Delhi Capitals occupies third place with 468 runs.

Shubman Gill, captain of Gujarat Titans, remains firmly in contention with 462 runs from 10 matches. Rajasthan Royals youngster Vaibhav Sooryavanshi and Gujarat Titans batter Sai Sudharsan are tied with 440 runs each, highlighting the narrow margins separating the leading run-scorers.

The Purple Cap contest has been equally competitive. Gujarat Titans fast bowler Kagiso Rabada leads the wicket-taking charts with 18 wickets from 11 games. Bhuvneshwar Kumar of Royal Challengers Bengaluru and Anshul Kamboj of Chennai Super Kings are just behind with 17 wickets each.

Interestingly, pacers have completely dominated the Purple Cap leaderboard, with no spinner featuring among the top wicket-takers this season. With several crucial matches still remaining, both races are expected to remain fiercely contested until the final stages of the league.

INDIAN PREMIER LEAGUE 2026...

Royal Challengers Bengaluru beat Mumbai Indians by 2 wickets at Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh International Cricket Stadium in Raipur on Sunday

POINT TABLE

TEAM	Played	Won	Lost	NR	Pts	NRR
Royal Challengers Bengaluru	11	7	4	0	14	1.118
Sunrisers Hyderabad	11	7	4	0	14	0.737
Gujarat Titans	11	7	4	0	14	0.228
Punjab Kings	10	6	3	1	13	0.571
Chennai Super Kings	11	6	5	0	12	0.185
Rajasthan Royals	11	6	5	0	12	0.082
Kolkata Knight Riders	10	4	5	1	9	-0.169
Delhi Capitals	11	4	7	0	8	-1.154
Mumbai Indians	11	3	8	0	6	-0.585
Lucknow Super Giants	11	3	8	0	6	-0.920

Prince Yadav and Mohsin Khan can play for India, says Bharat Arun

CH NEWS, CHENNAI

Bharat Arun, bowling coach of Lucknow Super Giants, believes young pacers Prince Yadav and Mohsin Khan possess the talent and temperament to represent India in the future if they continue improving their game.

Arun praised the growth and confidence shown by Prince during the ongoing season.

Prince has emerged as one of the standout performers for LSG this year, claiming 16 wickets and delivering crucial spells across different phases of matches. The 24-year-old pacer, who rose through tennis-ball cricket, recently grabbed attention after dismissing Virat Kohli with an impressive delivery during LSG's previous match against Royal Challengers Bengaluru.

Arun said Prince had shown glimpses of his potential last season, but the coaching staff worked closely with him during pre-season camps to strengthen his understanding of his natural strengths and execution under pressure.

The former India bowling coach explained that bowlers often struggle mentally in high-pressure situations, but players who trust their strengths and maintain clarity are more likely to succeed consistently.

Arun also highlighted Mohsin Khan's abilities and described LSG's pace attack as one of the reasons behind his association with the franchise. He noted that experienced pacer Mohammed Shami has been performing well, while Mayank Yadav is gradually regaining rhythm after limited match practice.

According to Arun, LSG possesses several exciting bowling prospects capable of progressing to the highest level. He said both Prince and Mohsin have the necessary qualities to play for India if they continue developing their skills and maintaining consistency in competitive cricket.

VAIBHAV SOORYAVANSHI CREATES HISTORY WITH FASTEST 100 T20 SIXES MILESTONE

CH NEWS, JAIPUR

Young Rajasthan Royals batter Vaibhav Sooryavanshi added another remarkable achievement to his growing list of records after becoming the fastest player in T20 cricket history to reach 100 sixes.

The 15-year-old reached the milestone in just 514 deliveries during Rajasthan Royals' IPL clash against Gujarat Titans at the Sawai Mansingh Stadium in Jaipur. The record-breaking moment came when Sooryavanshi struck a first-ball six off Mohammed Siraj.With the feat, Sooryavanshi also became the youngest player ever to complete 100 sixes in T20 cricket, further strengthening his reputation as one of the brightest young talents in world cricket.

The explosive batter scored 36 runs from just 16 deliveries, including three sixes and three boundaries.

All three maximums came during the powerplay overs, helping him break another IPL record for most sixes hit in the first six overs during a single season. Sooryavanshi now leads the chart with 30 powerplay sixes in IPL 2026, surpassing Abhishek Sharma, who previously held the record with 29 sixes in the 2024 season.

The teenager had already created headlines earlier by becoming the fastest Indian to score an IPL century. He remains the only batter in IPL history to score two centuries in fewer than 40 deliveries — a 35-ball hundred against Gujarat Titans in IPL 2025 and a 36-ball ton against Sunrisers Hyderabad this season.

Meanwhile, Gujarat Titans posted a formidable 229/4 after captain Shubman Gill scored 84 off 44 balls and Sai Sudharsan contributed 55. Washington Sundar added late fireworks.

Buttler hails Sooryavanshi as best young talent

NEW DELHI : Young cricketer Vaibhav Sooryavanshi is grabbing attention in IPL 2026 with outstanding performances. The teenager has scored 440 runs in 11 innings at a strike rate of 236.55, becoming one of the most dangerous batters of the season and leading in six-hitting. England star Jos Buttler praised Sooryavanshi He called him the best player he has seen at such a young age.

City Hilights (English Daily) published by P. Sunil Kumar (Publisher) on behalf of Immaculate Broadcasting Consortium World News (P) Ltd., No. 18, JRV Court, Queens's Road, Bengaluru – 560001 and printed at Manipal Media Network Limited Opp. Govt School, Kempalinganahalli, Near Kunigal Cross, Nelamangala TQ, Bangalore Rural Dist. -562123, Printed at No-7/2 plot no.CA-3/1,28(p)&29(p) Kapanoor 2nd Stage Industrial Area Kapnoor Village Kalaburagi -585104. Printed at S. J. R. V. Printers, No. 208 Plot No. B-019 KSSIDC Industrial Area, Irfan Ahamed Khan Pathan, 4th Main Road Gamanagatti, Hubballi-Dharwad – 580025. and Elegant Offset Printers Pvt. Ltd. No. 5-61/1, Shed No. M-6, Yeyyadi Industrial Estate, Yeyyadi, Mangalore - 575 008. (RNI No: KARENG / 2015 / 63243), Regd. No. BGGPO-2581/2017-2019 Posted at Bengaluru PSO-560026 Email - cityhilights.news@gmail.com Phone: 080-41209042. Copyright. All rights reserved. Reproduction without permission is prohibited.